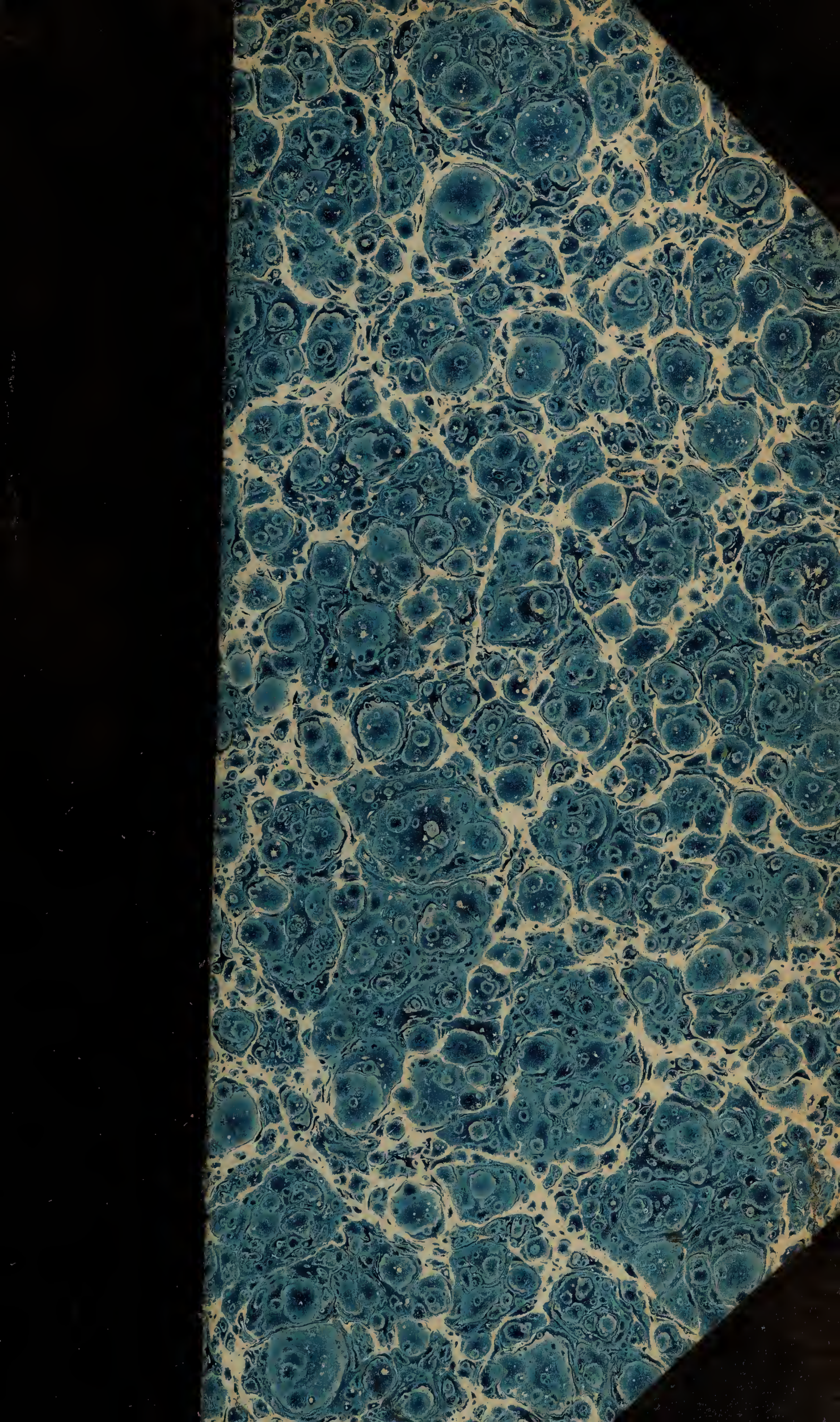

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The ANCIENT

PHYSICIAN's

LEGACY to his Country.

Being what he has collected himself,

In Fifty-eight Years PRACTICE, &c.

42786

The ANCIENT

PHYSICIAN's LEGACY to his Country.

Thomas Howell
1820.

Being what he has collected himself,

In Fifty-eight Years PRACTICE:

Or, an Account of the ſeveral

DISEASES incident to MANKIND;

Deſcribed in ſo plain a Manner,

That any PERSON may know the Nature of his own DISEASE.

Together with the ſeveral REMEDIES for each DISTEMPER, faithfully ſet down.

Deſigned for the Uſe of all Private FAMILIES.

Homines ad Deos, nullâ in re propius accedunt, quam Salutem hominibus dando. CIC.

Homines ad Dæmona, nullâ in re propius accedunt, quam Salutem hominibus negando. DO.

By THOMAS DOVER, *M. B.*

The EIGHTH EDITION.

In this EDITION are very conſiderable ADDITIONS; beſides a great Number of LETTERS ſent from ſeveral Parts of *England*, of the extraordinary CURES perform'd by CRUDE MERCURY: With ſome Remarks on the Author of *The Uſe and Abuſe of Mercury*. To which is added, An ESSAY on *Midwifry*; and the *Moral Converſation* of the College of Phyſicians, in *Latin* and *Engliſh*, by Way of Appendix; together with a *Digreſſion*.

LONDON:

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TO

ROBERT TRACY, Esq;

OF

STANWAY *in* Glouceſterſhire.

SIR,

AMIDST the general *Corruption* into which we are fallen, *Phyſic* has not preſerved its Purity; though this, perhaps, is too important a *Truth* to be publiſh'd with Safety. There is a *Craft*, (if the Word is not too harſh) in this Profeſſion, as well as in all

all others; and the greateſt Part of its Fellowers will not fail to oppoſe the leaſt Step towards a Reformation.

YOUR Reputation is ſo well eſtabliſh'd, that the ſheltering myſelf under your Name, may be ſome Security againſt Calumny; your Eſteem muſt naturally procure me the Eſteem of all good Men; and this, one would think, might in ſome Meaſure ſoften, if not entirely ſubdue the Spirit of Detraction.

To mention the Antiquity of your Family (though it extends to the moſt ancient

ent of our Kings) is needleſs: Your own *Perſonal Merit* gives you a much higher Value, not only than your *Birth*, but than any *Title* which the Crown could confer upon you. I have ever hated *Flattery*; and I believe there is not a Gentleman who has the *Honour* and *Happineſs* to know you, but will readily allow that what I ſay of you, is ſtrictly true.

COULD this Eſſay as effectually eſtabliſh the *Health*, as the whole Courſe of your Life has promoted the *Happineſs* of Mankind, it would more than anſwer my utmoſt

moſt Hopes: But however ſhort I may fall in this Reſpect, I have at leaſt an Opportunity of gratifying my Ambition, by declaring myſelf,

SIR,

Your moſt obliged,

Moſt faithful, and

Moſt devoted Servant,

THOMAS DOVER.

The Ancient PHYSICIAN's Legacy to his Country.

I Have ſpent the greateſt Part of my Life, without the leaſt Thought of becoming an Author; and if it ſhould be aſk'd, what makes me now appear in Print: I anſwer, That I have acquired in Phyſick, by my long Study and Practice, what I conceive may be for the common Benefit of Mankind; and therefore I publiſh my Obſervations.

If this ſhould not be allowed as a ſufficient Reaſon, by ſome who have expreſſed no Good Will towards me, it will give me but little Concern, I leave what I write to the unprejudiced Reader.

My Deſign is to touch on ſuch Parts of Phyſick, as I conceive moſt neceſſary to be underſtood by every Practitioner, and which ſeem to me hitherto to have been neither ex-

plained, nor accounted for in a proper Manner, notwithſtanding the voluminous Works in which they have been treated of.

AUTHORS, for the moſt part, follow one another, and deviate but little from the common Track. This Method I ſhall in no wiſe purſue; my Deſign being to ſet down only ſuch Things as have occured to me from the Practice and Experience of *Fifty-eight* Years.

I AM very ſenſible that my Stile is not correct; and I ſhall take no extraordinary Care to poliſh it. I ſhall be ſufficiently ſatisfied, if what I write be intelligible, and if my Matter be thought worth attending to. In a Word, I ſhall be contented if this Treatiſe does but in ſome Meaſure deſerve the Character which Mr. *Budgell* gives of the Writings of the Honourable *Robert Boyle*, Eſq; in his moſt excellent *Memoirs of the Family of the* Boyles. Mr. *Budgell*, who ſeems to inherit the Genius of his near Relation, the great Mr. *Addiſon*, ſpeaks of Mr. *Boyle*'s Stile in the following Words:

" *It muſt be confeſſed, that his* Stile *is*
" *far from being* correct; *that it is too*
" wordy *and* prolix; *and that though it is*
" *for the moſt part plain and eaſy, yet,*
" *that he has ſometimes made uſe of harſh*
" *and antiquated Expreſſions; yet under*
" *all theſe Diſadvantages, ſo curious is his*
" Matter, *and ſo ſolid are his* Obſervations,
" *that the hardeſt Thing we can ſay of his*
" *moſt careleſs Piece is, That it appears like*
" *a beautiful Woman in an* Undreſs.

If a Gentleman, who is ſo perfect a Maſter of every Sort of Stile himſelf, (for though I cannot *paint*, yet I pretend to know a good Picture) prefers *ſolid Matter* to a *Flouriſh of Words*, I hope none of my Readers will pretend to be more ſqueamiſh.

It is eſſentially neceſſary in the Cure of Diſeaſes, to be throughly acquainted with the Nature of them: Without this Knowledge, no Good is to be done. On the contrary, much Harm may probably enſue, from the Phyſician's miſtaking the Patient's Caſe; which in ſome Perſons is eaſily diſcovered, in others very difficult to underſtand.

This, I apprehend, proceeds from the Affinity and Reſemblance there is between different Diſeaſes; which, though often attended with the ſame Symptoms, yet proceed from different Cauſes, and conſequently require various Methods of Cure: For which Reaſon the Phyſician ſhould be very cautious in preſcribing, till he has fully examined the Symptoms of the Diſeaſe, compared them with the ſeveral Anſwers of the Patient, and till he has juſt Reaſons to think he underſtands the Nature of the Diſtemper.

Complicated Caſes are moſt difficult; neither is it poſſible to determine any Thing of them before they happen, by reaſon of their various Degrees, and uncertain Combinations.

In theſe Caſes, ſo very hard to be adjuſted, it may be pardonable for a Phyſician to err a little; but in ſimple Diſeaſes, the Miſtake admits of no Excuſe.

To go no farther than a Dropſy. —— I have attended ſome Perſons in this Diſtemper, where it has taken very deep Root. —— Their Legs, Thighs, and Bodies have been blown up like Bladders; yet ſome of theſe Perſons have been blooded four or five Times

in

in order, as was ſaid, to relieve their Shortneſs of Breath; whereas Shortneſs of Breath is not always an Indication for Bleeding.

THERE are three Cauſes of a *Dyſpnœa*, or Shortneſs of Breath; Inflammation, Convulſion, and Plenitude; Bleeding in Convulſions, if it has not been, ought to be exploded; and in Fulneſs, occaſioned by Dropſies, it is pernicious to the laſt Degree.

I SHALL make no Scruple to affirm, That Shortneſs of Breath, though it be what we term *Actio Læſa*, makes no Diſtemper, without ſome other bad Symptoms attending it; if it did, a Man who runs, or uſes any violent Exerciſe, cauſing Shortneſs of Breathing, might be ſaid to be diſtemper'd.

NEITHER, in other Caſes, is Shortneſs of Breath to be looked on as any Thing but the Effect of ſome Diſeaſe cauſing great Weakneſs, which on the leaſt Motion is followed with Difficulty of Breathing.

IT may ſeem ſtrange that this Diſeaſe, *viz.* a Dropſy, ſhould be ſo groſly miſtaken; when the Condition of a Woman, near the Time of her Delivery, is not more apparent to the Eye, than that of an hydropical Perſon. However, this ſhews what great Rea-

ſons there are to ſet the Symptoms of Diſeaſes in as clear a Light as poſſible.

I SHALL, in the Proſecution of this Subject, take Notice, in a very brief Manner, of the Fluids in human Bodies; a Point very neceſſary to be underſtood, becauſe they are the Seat of all Diſtempers; whereas the ſolid Parts are only paſſive. —— Little, that I can find, has been ſaid of this Matter, though the right Underſtanding of it is of ſo great Uſe in the Art of Healing.

INSTEAD of giving us ſuch neceſſary Preliminaries, many lay the whole Streſs of curing Diſeaſes upon the Number of their Receipts, ſtuffing their Books with long and tedious Preſcriptions; which is little better than teaching us how to cure People, before we know the Nature of their Diſtemper.

THIS brings to my Mind a Saying of that good and truly honeſt Man Dr. *Sydenham*: —— *Medicæ Artis pompa & dignitas non tam formularum Concinnitate & Elegantiâ, quam morborum Curatione cernitur.*

THE late famous Dr. *Ratcliff* was of Opinion, That it was expedient for young Gentlemen, entering upon our Profeſſion, to travel; and that ſuch as purſued their Studies

at

at Home, could not (allowing they have had the Advantages of an Academical Education) improve themſelves equally with thoſe that ſpend many Years Abroad, and make good Uſe of their Time. ——This was his Reaſon for ſettling Annual Penſions upon ſome young Phyſicians, that they might be in a Capacity to travel.

Perhaps he had done better, if he had obliged thoſe Gentlemen to practice Phyſick, at leaſt ten Years, before their ſetting out for foreign Parts: They would then have been much more capable of making ſuch Obſervations, as might be of ſingular Uſe to them; and 'tis further my Opinion, that if he had ordered them to viſit the moſt intemperate Climates, where all acute Diſeaſes are the moſt violent, they would have returned Maſters of greater Knowledge and Experience, than they can ever acquire by only paſſing through the moſt healthy Parts of *Europe*, which ſeems more like travelling for the ſake of their own Health, than that of other People.

If Travelling be neceſſary to make an accompliſhed Phyſician, I am very ſure that I

have travelled more than all the Phyſicians in *Great Britain* put together.

But I am going a little out of my Way, and ſhall therefore return to what I at firſt propoſed; wherein, if I fall ſhort, I ſhall yet pleaſe myſelf in my ſincere Deſign of being beneficial to Mankind. All I deſire of thoſe who find fault with my Performance, is, to produce a better in its Room.

In the Account I give of Diſeaſes, I ſhall endeavour to be as ſhort and intelligible as poſſible —— The uſual and general Diviſion of Diſtempers, is into Chronical and Acute, and each Branch of them is ſubdivided into many particular ones. —— The moſt common I hope to deſcribe in ſo plain a manner, that even the Patient himſelf ſhall be able to give a proper Name to his Diſeaſe.

To begin then with the Chronical: —— Which as they are the moſt difficult to be remedied, ſo are they many Times equally difficult to be known. —— Of theſe the moſt common, and moſt painful (though, I think, not the hardeſt to be cured) is the Gout.

Gout, *or* Arthritis.

This has various Names, according to the Parts affected: 'Tis term'd *Podagra* when in the Foot, *Chiragra* when in the Hand, *Gonegra* when in the Knee, *Sciatica* when in the Hip.

'Tis ſtrange to ſee how often Phyſicians call this Diſtemper a Rheumatiſm, and a Rheumatiſm the Gout. —— The Difference between them will plainly appear from the Deſcription I ſhall give of theſe two Diſtempers.

Of the ſeveral Names above ſet down, a regular Gout may moſt properly be term'd *Podagra*, becauſe it begins in the firſt Joint of the great Toe, and that uſually about Midnight; where, after it has rack'd the Patient forty-eight Hours with a violent fix'd Pain, a ſmall Tumour begins to appear, increaſing gradually; after that, an Inflammation, and then the Violence of the Pain abates.

The firſt Fit may laſt a Fortnight, or three Weeks; but a great Weakneſs and Tenderneſs

neſs in the Part afflicted, remains much longer.

The Patient may feel no more of this Diſeaſe for two or three Years, or at ſooneſt a Twelvemonth: But what adds much to the Misfortune of this Diſtemper, is, That every Fit becomes more painful, and the Paroxiſms more frequent and laſting.

The gouty Matter increaſing, riſes to the Ancles and Knees, which, as was ſaid before, ſwell with Inflammation: This Degree of the Diſtemper, by ſome Authors, is called *Morbus Articularis*, and is always attended with a ſymptomatical Fever; for as the Pains wear off, the Fever abates.

Thus it takes its Progreſs, increaſing by Degrees, till the poor Patient is lacerated, and torn to Pieces; Chalk-Stones working out of the Joints, attended with other melancholy Circumſtances.

It muſt be obſerved, towards the latter End of this Diſeaſe, when the Fluids are almoſt wholly changed into gouty Matter, the Fits are not ſo regular, nor the Pains ſo violent; but then the Patient is ſeldom free from them.

Phy-

PHYSICIANS have been much miſtaken about the Cauſe of this Diſtemper: That it is Matter, appears from the Tumours and Inflammation that attend it; but the Difficulty lies to find out the *Nature* of this Matter. —— I ſhall venture to affirm 'tis an Alkali: That the Chalk-Stones that work out of the Joints are ſuch, appears from the Fermentation occaſioned by Acids, which in ſmall Quantities cauſe Pains in gouty Perſons: Theſe Pains proceed from the Acids meeting with a contrary Quality, whereby a preternatural Fermentation is raiſed in the diſtempered Part; and this creates a Heat and Burning, the Heat being an Effect of that Fermentation or Motion, according to the Learned Dr. *Willis*, whoſe Treatiſe of Fermentation I prefer to his other Works: If I miſtake not, he gives this Definition of it, viz. "*Motus Inteſtinus ad perfectionem* "*alicujus Corporis, vel ad Internecionem* "*ejuſdem.*"

THERE have been ſo many unſucceſsful Attempts made to maſter this Diſeaſe, that Patients have very little Faith left, and (as they commonly ſay) have no Hopes from any Thing but Patience and warm Flannel: But

with

with Submiſſion, keeping the Part warm is wrong, becauſe 'tis *proprium Caloris attrahere*; and does, beyond doubt, attract gouty Matter to the Parts.

NOTWITHSTANDING the many fruitleſs Attempts that have been made to cure this miſerable Diſtemper, Providence has in this, as well as in all other Diſeaſes, left Means for our Recovery, which in many Inſtances I am able to make appear. I ſhall refer to one, where the Curious may be ſatisfied: The Coachman of the Right Honourable the Lord Viſcount *St. John* had a long and tedious Fit of the Gout, and was hardly able to ſtir without Crutches: I gave him a very pleaſant eaſy Sudorific; which had its deſired Effect: — Inſomuch that the Day following, he walked from *Albemarle-ſtreet* to *Cecil-ſtreet*, to give me Thanks. He came to me without the Help of a Stick, and with ſtrait Shoes on: The Swelling was entirely gone: He affirmed that he was never better in his Life; and that he was able to walk from one End of the Town to the other.

THIS Perſon has never had any Return ſince, though he was much afflicted with it many

many Years before. — It may be aſked, Will he never have it again? The ſame Queſtion may be aſked of any Fever, (except ſome few with Eruptions) for many Perſons are very ſubject to Fevers every Spring; yet I preſume no Body will ſay a Patient was not cured of a Fever he had many Years ſince, though he ſhould happen to have a Fever again this Year.

It will, I hope, at leaſt be granted, That ſuch long Intervals add much to the Comfort of Life; and I am confident there is no Body can have the Gout to that Degree, but that there may be a Rebate given to his Pains. He may find great Relief without Opiates, or painful Remedies, which I am a Stranger to, and very much diſlike.

" Take Tamarinds half an Ounce, Leaves
" of Senna two Drams, Rheubarb one Dram,
" boil them in Water to three Ounces, ſtrain
" them off, and diſſolve in them of Manna,
" and the purging Syrup of Roſes, each one
" Ounce, Syrup of Buck-Thorn and Elixir
" Proprietatis, each two Drams. — Drink-
" ing Poſſet-Drink, or thin Gruel, between
" Motions. — Taking this once or twice a
" Week,

" Week, will leſſen the gouty Matter, and " break the Force of the Fits."

" TAKE Opium one Ounce, Salt-Petre " and Tartar vitriolated, each four Ounces, " Ipocacuana one Ounce, Liquorice one " Ounce. Put the Salt-Petre and Tartar " into a red-hot Mortar, ſtirring them with " a Spoon till they have done flaming. — " Then powder them very fine; after that " ſlice in your Opium; grind theſe to a " Powder, and then mix the other Powders " with theſe. Doſe from forty to ſixty or " ſeventy Grains in a Glaſs of White-Wine " Poſſet, going to Bed. — Covering up " warm, and drinking a Quart or three Pints " of the Poſſet-Drink while ſweating."

IN two or three Hours, at fartheſt, the Patient will be perfectly free from Pain; and though before not able to put one Foot to the Ground, 'tis very much if he cannot walk the next Day. When it is taken, keep your Bed till next Day Noon. This Remedy may be taken once a Week, or once a Month.

MYNSYCHT's Elixir of Vitriol taken often in large Quantities, moſt certainly deſtroys gouty Matter; yet for ſome Time it may cauſe Pain; but taken in its due Latitude, if

Water

Water will quench Fire it muſt in the End have its deſired Effects.

It has been objected to one Part of my Book, That I have a great Diſlike to *Opiates*; and yet, that in the Preſcription immediately following, I have ſet down an Opiate. Some Apothecaries have deſired their Patients to make their Wills, and ſettle their Affairs, before they venture upon ſo large a Doſe as I have recommended, which is from Forty to Seventy Grains. As monſtrous as they may repreſent this, I can produce undeniable Proofs, where a Patient of mine has taken no leſs a Quantity than an Hundred Grains, and yet has appear'd abroad the next Day.

This Notion of theirs proceeds entirely from their Ignorance, and from the Want of knowing the Nature of thoſe Ingredients that are mix'd up with it, for they naturally weaken the Power of the Opium.

I would not have the Reader imagine, that I am an Enemy to Opiates; I only look upon a conſtant and uninterrupted Uſe of them to be pernicious. As I cannot fail of having the greateſt Veneration for the Memory of my old Maſter Dr. *Sydenham*, I often

ten remember his Obſervations, eſpecially upon Opiates, which is as follows:

Sine Papaveribus, ſine Opiatis, & Medicamentis, ex iis Confectis, manca & clauda, eſſet Medicina.

In my former Editions, in that Chapter which treats of the *Gout*, I omitted a Remedy againſt this Diſeaſe, when it is in the Stomach, which I have now added, and is as follows:

"Take two Drams of *Venice* Treacle diſ-
"ſolv'd in a Glaſs of good Wine: After
"drinking it, and going to Bed immediately
"upon it, the Patient will find himſelf much
"eaſier in two Hours, and entirely free from
"it in ſixteen. The beſt Topical or Out-
"ward Remedy is a raw Beef-Stake."

Since Quickſilver has ſo generally prevail'd there are ſeveral Perſons, who, tho' before they had conſtantly two Fits in a Year, ſince the taking of Mercury, have eſcaped a Fit for two, three, or four Years together.

One

One Mr. Owen, a *Pembrokeſhire* Gentleman, came to give me Thanks for the Benefit he had received from reading my Book; I aſk'd him what that was? He told me he had had the Gout for one and fifty Years; that his Father and Mother, Grandfather and Grandmother all dy'd of it; that he had it in both Feet in the ninth Year of his Age, which confined him for a conſiderable time; that the middle Finger, I take it, on his left Hand, had been a ſtrait Finger fourteen Years, and you ſee now, Sir, I move it as I do my other Fingers; for twenty Years paſt he had not ſtood upon his Legs, and if I pleas'd, I might go to *Janeway's* Coffee-Houſe, near the *Royal Exchange*, and there aſk if they ever ſaw him without a Pair of Crutches before? Accordingly I went thither, and they told me they never ſaw him before without Crutches; all this was perform'd by the uſe of Quickſilver; he then told me he had enter'd upon the ninth Pound, and that he walk'd every Morning to *Iſlington*, drank two or three Glaſſes of Water, and then return'd; that he could walk ſeven Miles with as much Pleaſure as any Man living, his Legs and Joints was as free from Nodes, as any

young Man's of Fifteen or Sixteen Years old. This Story he told in Twenty ſeveral Companies.

DROPSY, *called* Hydrops.

THERE are three Sorts of Dropſies, the moſt common and moſt fatal, is the Aſcites. This Diſtemper is often many Years contracting; in ſome near twenty Years, according to the beſt Judgment that can be made. One or two Inſtances may make this clear.

Mr. WILLIAM STAUNTON, of *Hampton*, near *Hampton-Court*, formerly a Chancery Clerk of *Furnival's-Inn*, was for Twenty Years afflicted with a violent Aſthma: He had many Phyſicians, but found no Help: At laſt he had that Species of the Dropſy which I am going to deſcribe. His Diſtemper reduced him to that Weakneſs, and made him ſo corpulent and unweildy, that he was not able to turn in his Bed, nor lie but on one Side, inſomuch that the Fleſh was worn off the Hip and Shoulder: It was expected a Mortification would enſue. — In this Condition

dition Mrs. *Staunton* aſk'd, If I conceiv'd any Hopes of him? I anſwer'd, There was but little Room for Hope; yet if ſhe pleaſed to try the Force of the Medicine I ſhould preſcribe, ſhe might be aſſured there was no Danger in it.

He took it every Night and Morning, as I uſually give it.—He has told me ſince, that it conſtantly brought away from a Gallon to five Quarts of Water. — Taking this daily, it muſt be ſuppoſed he was ſoon freed from his Waters.

He has been clear of his Aſthma ever ſince, and enjoys a better State of Health than he has done for twenty Years paſt. This was in the ſixty-ſeventh Year of his Age; yet he has at preſent as florid a Complexion as any Man of twenty.

I conclude, that he had a Collection of Waters in his Breaſt, which cauſed the Aſthma.

I had another Patient, who had a White Swelling, as the Surgeon calls it, in both Knees. He came to Town, and applied himſelf to Mr. *Bocheer*; who, like an honeſt Man, did little to him, but adviſed him to go to the *Bath*; which he did for near twenty

Years, as the Gentleman told me: But in the End this appear'd to be an Aſcites. I was called to him; and upon purging off the Waters, thoſe White Swellings totally diſappeared. He told me, he had not had ſo good a Command of his Legs for twenty Years paſt.

MANY Inſtances of the like Nature I could produce; but I take theſe two to be ſufficient for my preſent Purpoſe.

HENCE it is evident what ſlow Paces this Diſtemper many Times makes.

SOME Nicety will be required to give ſuch a Deſcription of this Diſeaſe, as to make it known in its Approaches. 'Tis eaſily prevented, though very difficult to be cured when it comes to an Height.

IT begins with a Thirſt, which inſenſibly grows on the Patient. The Inſide of the Hand grows dry, with a more than common Hardneſs; and the Patient is attended with an unuſual Heat. All the Glands of Secretion begin to fall ſhort of performing their due Functions, till at laſt Tranſpiration ceaſes. The Urine decreaſes much in Quantity, and is often high colour'd. An Inability to Motion increaſes as the Body fills, with great Shortneſs of Breath, and Loſs of Appetite.

THESE

THESE are the ſeveral Symptoms of an approaching Dropſy, which uſually ſhews itſelf firſt in the Legs. This Diſtemper may be coming on ſeveral Years, as has been above noted, and for want of a due Examination of the Patient, it has been too often taken for ſome other Diſeaſe, which has proved fatal to many People.

To deſcribe a confirmed Aſcites, is no more than to ſet the foregoing in a clear Light.

THE Thirſt is more intenſe, Urine leſs in Quantity, higher coloured, coming near to the Water made in a Jaundice; Shortneſs of Breath to that Degree, that there is no lying down in Bed; an Inability to all Motion; a total Loſs of Appetite; looſe Stools frequent, but in ſmall Quantities; the Legs, Thighs, and all Parts of the Body, are full of Water; which, with the Addition of a ſymptomatical Jaundice, make up the frightful and mercileſs Retinue that attend this great Evil.

AFTER all, I ſhall venture to ſay, That let me but come to People as early in this Diſtemper, as they generally apply for Relief from other Phyſicians, and it ſhall be cured with as much Certainty as any other Gentle-

man may cure a Diſtemper he thinks himſelf moſt Maſter of. —— I am ſurpriz'd that the Paracenteſis, or Tap, ſhould be ſo frequently uſed in this fatal Diſeaſe. — I ſhould be glad to know if one in five hundred has been cured by it. — It rather confirms the Diſeaſe, and often renders it incurable, while the poor Patient's Life is protracted in Miſery and Diſpair; ſo that it may well be ſaid,

Graviora morbis patimur Remedia,
Nec vita tanti eſt, vivere ut poſſis, mori.

Such Aids new Fuel to your Pain ſupply,
Who values Life, if he muſt hourly die?

The TYMPANY, Tympanites.

ANOTHER Species of Dropſy, to which the Fair Sex are only liable, proceeds from their frequent Miſcarriages and hard Labours: Beſides, as they are of a much finer Texture of Body than Men, they are more ſubject to the Paſſions of the Mind, which have often been the Cauſe of this Diſtemper.

THIS is part Wind, part Water, ſwelling the Abdomen, or Belly, only. The Muſcles waſte ſo in this Diſeaſe, that the Patient becomes a meer Skeleton, with Loſs of Appetite; Thirſt increaſes, but in a more remiſs Degree than in the Aſcites; Urine in ſmall Quantities, but often of a healthy Colour.—This may be cured pretty much in the ſame Way with the Aſcites.

ANASARCA.

THIS is another Species of the Dropſy, plainly differing from the Aſcites and Tympany. The Symptoms are vaſtly more unſettled: The Swellings in the two former are fix'd; in this they very often ſhift, and for the moſt Part affect only the Muſcles. As for Example: The Patient ſhall ſwell on one Side of the Body; and in a ſhort Time the Tumor ſhall quit that Part, and appear on the other Side of the Body; and in like Manner ſhift from one Thigh, Leg, or Arm, to the other.

THIS Diſeaſe is not ſo common as the Aſcites or Tympany, and is much eaſier

cured. Yet Mr. *Towne*, one of the King's Gardiners, died of it under Dr. *Radcliff*'s Care. — A Gentleman carried me to that unfortunate Man; but the Doctor was ſo confident of ſaving him by the wonderful Panacæa Bliſters, that I was not liſten'd to. The Bliſters, inſtead of proving Remedies, only gave the Patient Pain, without affording him any Help; ſo that in a ſhort Time after he died.

" Take Steel prepared with Sulphur and
" crude Antimony, each one Ounce, Diagri-
" dium four Ounces: Make a fine Powder
" of theſe; then add as much of any Syrup
" as will make a ſoft Electuary. ——
" Take a large Spoonful at Night going to
" Bed, and another in the Morning, ſtirring
" it well from the Bottom, increaſing or leſ-
" ſening the Doſe as you ſee Occaſion. ——
" For if one Spoonful, taken over Night,
" brings away two or three Quarts, it need
" not be repeated in the Morning. ——
" You muſt not drink during the Opera-
" tion of this Phyſick, as in other Purges;
" for if you pour in too much Liquor, it
" will deſtroy the End of Purging, and you

" will

" will find your ſelf juſt where you " were."

When your Waters are off, you may repeat your Purge once in four or five Days; then once a Week, and ſo on to once a Fortnight, and once a Month, till your Blood has recover'd its due Tone.

You muſt avoid all Spoon-Meats, Fruits, and Garden-Stuff, of what Kind ſoever. — And be ſure not to exceed a Pint and a half of Liquor in twenty-four Hours; for if you drink, your Thirſt will never abate. By this Method, and God's Bleſſing, I have cured Hundreds in my Time.

This Method will ſerve either in a Tympany or Anaſarca.

Several Phyſicians, I have been inform'd, have made great Objections to the Preſcription I have ſet down for the Cure of this Diſtemper, and are pleaſed to affirm at Random, That one Doſe which I have preſcribed would infallibly be the Death of any Patient. Now I will take upon me to affirm, That I have often given it in much larger Quantities; and that it has been ſo far from being attended with any ill Conſequences, that it

has

has produced all the good Effects to be desired.

It is a very great Hardship, that I must be subject to the Caprice of every Pretender to Physick: If I have already prescribed any Thing that is dangerous to Mankind, let the College of Physicians call me to an Account for it.

I do not know what Observations the Gentlemen of our Faculty have made; but I affirm, That an Hydropical Patient will dispense with Physick, that has at least triple the Strength of what is given in any other Distemper.

Upon those Days, when the Patient does not take a Purge, I prescribe one Dram of common Nitre, made into a Bolus with a Conserve of Hips, to be taken Morning and Night. This will very much abate his Thirst, and probably provoke Urine.

DIABETES.

THIS is a very fatal Diſeaſe, but rarely ſeen; yet in one Day I was called to two Patients that were afflicted with it. — *Riverius* ſays, He never ſaw more than one Perſon labour under this Diſtemper, in all his Practice.

IT ariſes from breaking the Compages or Tenor of the Blood.

THE Deſcription follows: 'Tis attended with a ſmall Fever, Loſs of Appetite, intenſe Thirſt, a great Dejection of the Animal Spirits, profuſe Quantities of Urine of a Violet Scent, with a thin oily Subſtance ſwimming on the Surface of it. When all theſe Symptoms meet, they conſtitute this Diſtemper.

THE ſort of Water deſcribed, is very common in what Phyſicians call Scorbutick Caſes. — Upon which, after the Learned Dr. *Wills* has made a very long Harangue about hot Scurvy and cold Scurvy, I muſt own my Capacity too weak to comprehend his Meaning; nor do I believe the Diſeaſe owed its name to any Thing, but that when the

the Phyſicians met with a Diſtemper they knew little of, they called it a *ſcurvy* one.

One Mr. *Jonathan Keate*, ſome Time after Surgeon to the Hoſpital at *King's Town* in *Jamaica*, was ſo far gone in a Diabetes, that he was not able to get out of his Cabin. — I was on board with ſome Company, who told me the Surgeon of the Ship lay dangerouſly ill, and deſired to ſee me. — I ſoon perceiv'd his Diſtemper, and ſent him from Shore what I thought proper. In three or four Days he came to *Port-Royal*, to return Thanks for the great Service I had done him. He did, as we ſay, *pancratice valere*, and ſo continued. — This is more than forty Years ſince. — About twenty Years ſince, I ſaw him in Town, he lodged in St. *Martin's-lane*, and was then juſt come from *Barcelona*.

I shall only give one Inſtance or two more: A Perſon recommended to me by his Grace the late Duke of *Richmond*, was ſo weak in this Diſtemper, that he could hardly ſtand. — I order'd him ten Days after to meet me at the Duke's, which he accordingly did; and

and gave his Grace Thanks for being perfectly recover'd. He lived on *Tower-Hill*; and, if I miſtake not, was an Houſe-Carpenter, but I have forgot his Name.

A Letter from Dr. CAMPBELL.

Dear Doctor,

I WAS laſt Night at your Lodgings, as I came from the Country, to pay my Reſpects to you. I can now tell you my Thirſt is quite gone, and I think the Diabetes with it; could you do me the Honour to eat Poor Jack with me To-morrow, I'll provide for you at Two o'Clock, whereby you'll extreamly oblige,

SIR,

Your moſt Obedient,

Bedford-ſtreet. *Humble Servant,*

JAMES CAMPBELL.

N. B. This Diſtemper he labour'd under ſeveral Years, and the Cure was perform'd in ſix Days.

THERE

THERE needs nothing more to be done for the Cure of this Diſeaſe, which has hitherto puzzled Phyſicians in all Ages, than to drink a quarter of a Pint of Allom Poſſet-Drink, firſt and laſt, made as ſtrong as your Stomach will bear it. — This I have experienced for Forty-five Years, and do not remember that it ever failed.

CONSUMPTION, *or* Phtiſis.

THOUGH this be a Chronical Diſeaſe it is alſo inflammatory; and I know of no other Chronical Diſtemper that is ſo.

IT begins with a violent Cough, and is always attended with an inflamed Maſs of Blood, except in convulſive Caſes: And as the Lungs are all Bronchia, or little *Air-Bladders* of the Aſpera Arteria, when we inſpire the inflamed Part, or what we ſee on the Top of the Blood, which the Phyſicians term Pleuretical, is ſtrained from the Maſs, which being left in thoſe *Air-Bladders*, occaſions a great Shortneſs of Breath, till by violent Coughing, or frequent Succeſſions of the Lungs, it is brought off. — If this Matter continues,

continues, it inflames the Lungs, till at laſt they are impoſthumated; and then the Patient's Caſe becomes deſperate.

THIS Diſeaſe commonly proceeds from Cold; which increaſing, the Patient complains firſt of a great Soreneſs in his Breaſt, Difficulty of Breathing, Loſs of Appetite, a great Heat and Drineſs in the Palms of his Hands, with frequent and ſudden Fluſhings in the Face; according to that of *Hippocrates*. *Rubor pertinax & ſaturatus in Genis pulmonem indicat inflammatum.*

As this Diſeaſe gathers Strength, colliquating Sweats come on towards Morning; then a Diarrhæa or Looſeneſs; the Fingers-Ends are ſwelled, and a few Days before Death, the Legs ſwell, which is the laſt Symptom.

THE good Dr. *Sydenham* wonderfully commends Riding in this Diſtemper; and he ſays, "*Hoc ſancte aſſero, quod neque* "*mercurius in Lue Venereâ neque Cortex* "*Peruvianus in intermittentibus efficacio-*"*res extent quam in Phtiſi curanda exerci-*"*tium jam laudatum.* — Speaking of Ri-"ding, *Modo æger curet ut linteamina lecti* "*ſint probe arefacta, atque etiam ut ſatis* "*longa Itinera emetiatur.*"

BUT,

BUT, with Deference to my old Friend's Judgment, I have known frequent Bleeding in ſmall Quantities, do more good than Riding. I ſhall ſet down one Caſe, of which any Perſon may ſatisfy himſelf.

A NEPHEW of Sir *George Caſwall*, whoſe Lungs were moſt apparently impoſthumated, from the corrupt and fœtid Matter that proceeded from them and thoſe colliquating Sweats, with a Diarrhæa, or Looſeneſs, and brought up large Quantities of Blood every Day, almoſt equal to a *Vomica Pulmonum*.

HIS Muſcles were almoſt intirely waſted; and ſo very weak, that he could hardly walk alone. I order'd him to bleed every other Day. — He ſoon viſibly grew better. — I ſent him to the Cold Bath; which he uſed to very great Advantage; ſo that he ſoon grew healthy and ſtrong, and fuller of Fleſh than ever.

WHEN Mr. *Pettit* blooded him, he would often ſay, he could not poſſibly live four and twenty Hours.

As this is an inflammatory Diſeaſe, all Methods of Cure ought to be avoided, except ſuch as abate the Inflammation; which I may venture

venture to ſay, is uſually increaſed by the vaſt Quantities of Oils and Syrups preſcribed: And this is the chief Reaſon that Phyſicians have had ſo little Succeſs in Conſumptions. They allow the Patient to uſe a ſtrengthening Diet, and indulge him too much with Wines, Gravies, and the like, contrary to a known Maxim in Phyſick. — *Impura corpora, quo plus nutries, eo magis lædes.*

Another Cauſe of Conſumptions is from an Empyema, which is an Impoſthumation on the Pleura; as when Pleuriſies or Peripneumonies are not blooded off, as long as any poignant or ſhooting Pains remain, there is an infallible Indication for Bleeding. 'Twas ſaid, the Lord *Sunderland* could not die for want of Bleeding, having loſt ſeventy Ounces: Whereas my next Door Neighbour had a Servant ſeiz'd with a Pleuriſy, who loſt two hundred and ſixty Ounces of Blood before his Pain left him. —— This Mr. *Pyle*, a very honeſt and eminent Surgeon, will atteſt.

The Man ſince enjoys a perfect State of Health.

One Mr. *William Maſters*, an eminent Surgeon at *Eveſham*, in *Worceſterſhire*, was

ſo far gone in a Conſumption, that he was not able to ſtand alone. I adviſed him by all means to loſe ſix Ounces of Blood every Day for a Fortnight, if he lived ſo long; then every other Day, then every third Day, and fifth Day for the ſame time. This was in the Month of *November*. The *March* following, he rode from *Eveſham* to *Briſtol* in one Day, which is forty-ſeven long Miles, to give me Thanks for his Recovery. — He lived many Years after. His Relations all died in Conſumptions. This was the firſt Experiment I made of Bleeding in this Diſeaſe, and have cured many ſince by the ſame Method.

One *Ambroſe Clarke*, a Servant to Sir *John Dutton* of *Sherbourn* in *Glouceſterſhire*, was ſo very weak in a Conſumption, that they entirely deſpaired of his Life. He was blooded at leaſt fifty times; and in a ſhort time recover'd ſo very well, that he enjoys a better State of Health than ever he did before.

" Take Anniſeeds finely powder'd, Saf-
" fron of Steel, each half an Ounce, made
" into Pills, with *Lucatella*'s Balſam; take
" five

" five of theſe every Morning, and at five " o'Clock in the Afternoon, drinking a large " Draught of Water acidulated with *Myn-* " *ſicht*'s Elixir of Vitriol.—After each Doſe, " Riding is of ſingular Uſe, and Cold- " bathing; but above all, frequent bleeding " in ſmall Quantities: For, as is before ob- " ſerv'd, whatever keeps the Lungs cool, is " the only way to cure Conſumptions; and " I have of late experienced, that Quick- " ſilver is the moſt beneficial Thing in all " the World for the Lungs, taking one " Ounce every Morning."

ASTHMA.

OF this there are two Species; the one convulſive, the other proceeding from a foul Maſs of Blood.

THESE are not hard to be diſtinguiſh'd: The convulſive generally has its Paroxiſms, or Fits; and though you may cough with greater Violence, and find a much greater Difficulty of Breathing, though you ſpit only a frothy Subſtance, yet when the Paroxiſm is over, the Patient finds not much Diſorder.

" TAKE Caſtor one Dram, Salt of Steel
" half a Dram, made into very ſmall Pills,
" with extract of Rue: Theſe you may take
" every Hour, till the Convulſion is abated,
" drinking three Spoonfuls of the following
" Julep after each Doſe. — Take of Black-
" Cherry and Penny-Royal Water, each
" an Ounce; of Rue and compound Briony
" Waters, each four Ounces, with a ſmall
" Quantity of Sugar, made into a Julep.
" — Or, a Toad dried and powdered, made
" into Pills, and taken as above, is a moſt
" excellent Remedy. — But we are ſo wiſe
" as to take it for granted, that a Toad is a
" very poiſonous Animal: Our Mothers in-
" ſtill into us ſuch an Averſion againſt the
" poor innocent and harmleſs Creature, that
" whenever we ſee him, moſt certainly he
" is ſtoned to Death: Whereas, rightly
" conſidered, he is a very great Bleſſing be-
" ſtowed on Mankind."

IN a ſanguinary Aſthma, or what proceeds from a foul Maſs of Blood, the Patient is ſeldom free; though at ſome times much better than others. As when the Winds are Eaſterly, the Patient ſoon finds a ſenſible Altera-

Alteration for the worſe. — Nay, I have been told, by thoſe that keep their Beds, that they have been ſenſible, in a few Minutes, when the Wind has ſhifted to the Eaſt; they cough, and ſpit a digeſted Matter.

This Diſeaſe rarely ſeizes People before they are of an advanced Age; which is the Reaſon it does not cauſe Conſumptions; for the *Parenchyma*, or Subſtance of the Lungs is then grown ſo very hard, that it rarely admits of Putrefaction. — The Cure of this laſt Aſthma does not much vary from that in Conſumptions.

When it proceeds from a foul Maſs of Blood, it ought to be treated as in a Conſumption; only purge once or twice a Week, with the Purge ſet down in the Gout.

In the removing of this Diſeaſe, I don't remember an Inſtance of my failing in the Cure of any Perſon who has apply'd to me for Relief. — I make uſe of this eaſy Remedy:

" An Ounce of Quickſilver every Day,
" to be taken at what Hour the Patient
" pleaſes, and a Spoonful of the Gas of Sul-
" phur in a large Draught of Spring-water,

" at Five o'Clock in the Afternoon, and at " Bed-time."

But I have a Pill and Drops, which ſome Years ſince I have found out, taking one Pill at Night, and another in the Morning twice a Week, and by taking fifteen or twenty of the Drops in a Quarter of a Pint of Spring-water about Five o'Clock in the Afternoon, and at Bed-time, with the help of Quickſilver, I have found by Experience, to exceed all other Methods of curing this Diſeaſe.

Extract of a Letter *from Captain* Harry Colt.

In the Year 1720, by taking Cold, ſome time after, I was ſeiz'd with a violent Cough and Shortneſs of Breath, which reduced me to a low and very weak Condition; I chiefly lived, by the Doctor's Direction, on Aſſes Milk, Syrup of Snails, and ſuch Stuff, and continually taking of other Medicines; I went to the Hot-Well at *Briſtol*,

Briſtol, where by drinking thoſe Waters, I found great Benefit, but returning to *London*, I grew much worſe; I join'd another Phyſician to my firſt, but grew worſe and worſe, and thus I continued in a declining Way, for ten or eleven Years. About the Year 1730, I was ſeiz'd with the Gout, join'd with my Aſthma, ſo that I deſpaired getting any Relief; but hearing of a Book juſt publiſh'd, entitled, *The Ancient Phyſician's Legacy to his Country*, written by Dr. DOVER, which made a great Noiſe in *London*, and was the Subject of almoſt every Coffee-Houſe, and ſeeing ſeveral Pamphlets daily advertis'd and wrote againſt it by ſome of the Faculty, I reſolved to buy it; and finding great Encomiums on the Virtue and Power of Quickſilver, I deſired to know of my Doctors, if I might not take it? They ſaid, they could not juſtify to preſcribe it, for that the Way Doctor DOVER had ordered, it was entirely new to them. The great Expence I had been at, of ſeveral Hundred Pounds, without any Relief, made me reſolve to ſend for Doctor DOVER, when I had a violent Fit of the Gout upon me: He told me the Doctors had miſtaken my Caſe,

for that my Aſthma was wholly Nervous, but to relieve me of the Pain of the Gout, he order'd me to apply a raw lean Beef-Steak to my gouty Foot, which gave me ſeven Hours Reſt, and took of the Anguiſh, and Pain, and Swelling; walking upon it the next Day, it ſwell'd again, I repeated the Steak, and in three or four Days the Gout left me; 'tis almoſt incredible what a Quantity of watry Matter came from my Foot; I then began to take Quickſilver, about an Ounce every Day, ſome Drops at certain times, and ſometimes a Pill or two. I now began to enjoy the Comforts of Health, at a very trifling Expence, except the Quickſilver, of which I verily believe I have taken an hundred and twenty Pounds weight, without the leaſt Regard to what I ate or drank, this is about Nine Years ſince. Once in a Year or two I have a ſmall Remembrance of the Gout, but not to that degree as to break me of one Moment's Reſt; I walk about with a ſtrait Shoe, and at three or four Days at the fartheſt, it intirely goes off. Dr. Dover ordered me to go to the Cold Bath, tho' I was forbid it on any Score, as being ſudden Death, my Lungs being af-

fected;

fected; however, the next Morning I went in, and so did for twenty-one Mornings together, taking the Quicksilver; I never found any ill Consequence by it, and I have known several to have done the like with great Success. I thank God, I believe very few People enjoy a better State of Health, than I do at this present,

H. Colt.

I lately receiv'd a Letter from a Patient, who, for the Good and Benefit of Sufferers in her Disorder, desires I will make it publick; which the Reader may please to take in her own Words following:

SIR,

I Have the Pleasure and Happiness to inform you, that I am in all Appearance quite cur'd of my Asthma; which had so grievously afflicted me for three Years together.

I do not perceive the least remaining Symptom of it, tho' this is one of the Months

Months in which my Shortneſs of Breath us'd to be at the worſt. The preſent Health I enjoy, compar'd with the Memory I ſtill retain of my almoſt inſupportable Aſthma, is ſo joyful a Change to me, that it would be the greateſt Ingratitude ſhould I longer delay to return you my Thanks and Acknowledgements, who under God has been the Reſtorer of my Health, even beyond what I thought poſſible, or could have any Reaſon to hope for.

I HERE ſend you the true State of my Illneſs, which I deſire may be publiſh'd, to the end that thoſe whoſe Unhappineſs it is to have this terrible Diſtemper, may, by reading what you have done for me, be encourag'd to try the ſame Advice and Remedies; which if they do, and take the ſame Care of Air and Exerciſe I have done, they may ſafely promiſe themſelves the ſame Succeſs.

SURPRIZE and Grief for the Misfortunes and Troubles of a near Relation, was the firſt Occaſion of my Aſthma, which was afterwards confirm'd by frequent Colds.

My

My Complaint was a Shortneſs of Breath, which would not ſuffer me to lie down in my Bed without Fear of being ſuffocated, tho' I had four Pillows for my Head. I had great Quantities of Wind in my Stomach, which gave me violent Cholicky Pains, and was occaſion'd, as I ſuppoſe, for want of Food, my Illneſs ſuffering me to take very little. I had always more or leſs of a Fever upon me, and great Pains in my Bowels. I brought up great Quantities of Phlegm by ſpitting; ſometimes it was frothy, but for the moſt Part thick and fizey. Of theſe Sorts, putting the Day and Night together, I brought up by Coughing above a Quart a Day; oftner near two Quarts: And during theſe three Years Illneſs, it has been computed that I cough'd up above eleven Hundred Quarts; and I am told that this Computation, which appears ſtrange even to me myſelf, is yet conſiderably within Compaſs.

It was not one Night in four that I could get the leaſt Reſt: I generally roſe as I went to Bed, having paſs'd the whole Night in Coughing. My Days were the ſame. So that with want of Reſt, often taking Phyſick

ſick to no Purpoſe, an Iſſue cut in my Arm, Vomits, frequent Bleedings, and no Appetite, violent Straining with my continual Cough, and want of Breath and Strength to go through with it, had reduc'd me extremely, and brought me ſo low that I was ſcarce able to ſtand, and but very ſeldom had Strength to croſs my Room.

I HAVE often, in the Extremity of my Illneſs, been within a few Moments of Death to all outward Appearance; but ſtill, by Change of Air, it has pleaſed God to abate the Violence of my Diſtemper.

I HAD the Advice of two Phyſicians, both Gentlemen of Character, and eminent in their Profeſſions, and my removing to different Airs, occaſioned my having three Apothecaries, who I took Care to chuſe for their Character and Experience; yet all that could be done for me was the Abatement of the Violence of my Illneſs for a Day, for the next Day it ſtill returned as bad as ever. The little that ſupported me was Chocolate. I drank a great deal of Water, for my continual Fever made me dry. In the Severity of one of the Winters I was perſuaded to drink a little Wine; I took

took about half a Wine Glaſs, but it catch'd my Breath ſo, that I paid dearly for it. I took, on my own Head, to the Eating of Seville Oranges, hoping they would bring up the Phlegm, without thoſe violent Coughs, which wore me out: This in a good Meaſure ſucceeded, ſo that in the Day and Night together, I eat ſeven or eight; and kept to them a whole Winter; but at laſt, I could not eat them any longer; and though they had eaſed my Cough, yet had no way advanced to a Cure.

So that my Weakneſs ſtill grew upon me daily; inſomuch, that juſt before I ſent to you, Sir, I had been told, no more could be done for me. Your firſt Viſit to me was on the firſt of *June*, 1737. I believe that I was ſo far gone, that you yourſelf did not expect to recover me; yet, by the taking of Quickſilver, by your Directions, it was effected. I began with one Ounce and a Quarter, and which I continu'd to take daily till *September*; I took it after Breakfaſt; and this, with your other Remedies, reſtor'd me to Reſt, to Appetite, and to Strength: Inſomuch, that in a Fortnight I could walk in the Fields for two Hours a Day;

Day; and in ſix Weeks time walk'd to *Hampſtead-Heath*, walk'd ſome time on it, and back again to my Lodgings near *Cavendiſh-ſquare*, and continu'd all the remaining Part of the Summer ſuch Sort of Walks, when the Weather would permit. I found great Advantage by theſe Walks; they clear'd my Lungs, and aſſiſted my Medicines, but ſtill it was my Quickſilver and Drops that gave me Strength and Breath to walk.

FINDING myſelf perfectly well, I diſcontinu'd my Quickſilver and Drops in *September*, as above obſerv'd; but in the Winter, coming into Town, and catching a great Cold, I was glad to return to them again; and though I had great Benefit by them, yet I could not entirely get rid of my Illneſs till in the Summer I return'd to a clear Air, and walking. I am ſo far improv'd in my Strength this Summer, that my common Walks have been five Miles, and five Miles back again; this, with the Quickſilver and Drops, has reſtor'd me to perfect Health. I have not taken any Quickſilver, or any other Medicine theſe ſix Months paſt. I have no Apprehenſion

of

of my Illneſs returning, for which I once more beg Leave to return you my moſt grateful Thanks for my preſent happy State of Health, which, under the Bleſſing of God, was entirely owing to you. I am,

SIR,

Your moſt obliged

Humble Servant,

Katherine Hood.

From my Lodgings, at the *Three Nuns*, next *Somerſet Houſe*, *Nov.* 6, 1738.

To Dr. DOVER.

SIR,

IT is with equal Pleaſure and Gratitude, that I can now inform you, I enjoy a tolerable good State of Health, compared with the miſerable Condition you found me in, when I ſent for, and conſulted you in *February* laſt.

I WAS then in continual Pain (eſpecially when in Bed) ſo that I could not ſleep an Hour in a Night for near twelve Months paſt, even with the Aſſiſtance of Laudanum; and

and when I did get a little Reſt, I was obliged to lie on my Back, being unable to bear lying on either Side, which made me ſo weak, I was ſcarce able to ſtand, and was forced to crawl up Stairs on my Hands and Knees when I went to Bed. I had at the ſame Time a Shortneſs of Breath, ſo troubleſome, that on the leaſt Motion, it put me under the greateſt Difficulty of Breathing, and cauſed me to Pant painfully ſome Minutes before I could recover myſelf; but I thank God, in leſs than three Weeks after I had taken your Advice, and three Quarters of an Ounce of Crude Mercury each Morning (to which, next to God's Bleſſing, I verily believe I owe my Life and the State of Health I now enjoy) my Pains left me, and have not returned ſince; I ſleep pretty well on either Side, and continue ſo to do; I eat heartily, and with a very good Appetite; and my Breath is greatly amended, though not perfectly ſtrong.

I AM, however, ſo happy, as to be able to go about my Buſineſs cheerfully, and can walk five or ſix Miles without Panting or Pain, provided I do not hurry myſelf unreaſonably.

I FLAT-

I FLATTER myſelf this Account, which I here give you, will be very acceptable to you, being fully perſuaded, from my own Obſervations, that you truly, honeſtly, and heartily conſult your Patients Welfare, preferable to the ſordid Views of too many of the Faculty.

IF this Letter, or the Uſe of my Name, will be of Service to you, you have my free Conſent to either; the rather, becauſe I have obſerved of late, among the generality of the Gentlemen of your Profeſſion, an odd ſort of ſeemingly inveterate Prejudice declared againſt you, and your favourite Medicine Crude Mercury.

IF thoſe Gentlemen decry Crude Mercury on account of its bad Effects, which to their Knowledge will one time or other (as they cautiouſly hint) enſue to thoſe who take it, they would do honeſtly and well, to declare before-hand, ſpecifically what thoſe bad Effects will be, that we may have ſome Proof of their Judgment and good Will to Mankind in decrying it, when they do happen. If they in Truth do know what Effects will enſue, it would be prudent and more for their Reputations, in the Opi-

nion of thinking and unprejudiced Men, to ſtudy the Qualities of the Medicine until they do underſtand them, and be ſilent till then, leſt by exploding what they know little or nothing of, they affright innocent and timorous People from taking the Benefit of an excellent (and as I have found it by Experience) an innocent Medicine at a ſmall Expence, and ſo betray their Ignorance, or what is worſe, their Greedineſs after Gain. I am,

SIR,

St. James's-Street, Weſtminſter, Sept. 9, 1735.

Your humble Servant,

THOMAS SAY.

To Dr. DOVER.

P. S. I HAVE taken upwards of ten Pound Weight of Crude Mercury by three Quarters of an Ounce at a time each Morning, ſince the 10th of *January* laſt, during which time, I never felt the leaſt Inconvenience in taking it, or in its Effects; nor did I obſerve any Regimen, or keep myſelf one Moment confined on that account. Now if the Enemies to this glorious Reme-

dy

dy can, by Lying or falſe Reports, be beat out of Uſe as they have done by Inoculation and Cold Bathing, then they may with Triumph ſay, we have gained our laſt Point.

JAUNDICE, *or* Icterus.

THIS is very viſible from the Yellowneſs of the Eyes and Skin, black Urine, and white Stools, accompanied with great Sickneſs and Faintings, but little Pain. If the Excrements are not white, it may be feared the Caſe is complicated; and it proves a Symptomatical Jaundice; which is never to be cured by Ictericks, or ſuch Medicines as are commonly uſed in the Jaundice.

THIS Diſeaſe proceeds from an Obſtruction of the *Ductus Coledochus*, which leads from the Gall to the Inteſtine *Duodenum*; the Bile not paſſing there, leaves the Ordure white, which otherwiſe takes its Colour from it; but mixing with the Blood, tinctures the Skin, as the Hair on the Head or Body takes its Dye from the Fluids.

PARACELSUS, in his Treatiſe *De Signatura Rerum*, very much commends the inner Bark of Barberries, Turmerick, Rheubarb, and all Plants of a yellow Caſt, in the Cure of this Diſeaſe: But they are too weak, as has been ſufficiently experienced long ſince.—He likewiſe commends the Arbor Tremula in Agues, the Pulmonaria Maculoſa in Conſumptions, Trachelium in ſore Throats and Quinſeys; and ſo goes on. Neither is this Method wholly laid aſide by the modern Phyſicians, who have Recourſe to the Teeth of a Bear, and the Jaw-bone of a Pike, and the black Tips of Crabs Claws; which being all pointed, they take it for granted they muſt be very efficacious Remedies in a Pleuriſy: And in Conſumptions they have a no leſs favourite Preſcription, call'd *Calves-Pluck Water*, with four Quarts of which they almoſt drown their Patient every Day. For my own part, I cannot imagine what they propoſe, unleſs this is done out of Kindneſs to the Apothecary's Apprentices, that they may, with the Aſſiſtance of Bacon and Sprouts, *q. ſ.* live comfortably upon the Pluck, and regale themſelves for ſome Time afterwards; and by this ſalutary Method infallibly

infallibly eradicate all Seeds of a Conſumption in themſelves, though they have an hereditary Right to it. —— I mention this, to ſhew on what weak Foundations we often venture our Lives.

THIS Diſeaſe commonly ends in ſome violent Hæmorrage; either by Urine, Stool, or a Vomica Pulmonum, which ſoon terminates in Death. —— All this may be imputed to that Alkali Bile, which tears the very Arteries in Pieces, and renders the Patient incurable.

" ONLY take eight Grains of Turbith
" Mineral at Four or Five in the Afternoon,
" drinking thin Gruel, or Poſſet-drink, be-
" tween Motions. —— After four or five
" Days repeat the Turbith, as above. ——
" In the intermediate Days take half a large
" Spoonful of *Mynſight*'s Elixir of Vitriol
" in half a Pint of Spring-Water, three
" Times a Day. —— This cures any original
" Jaundice I ever met with: Or you may
" take ſix Leaves of Aſſarabacca ſteep'd in
" half a Pint of Small Beer, the next Day
" drink it, and this in a very few Days will
" perform the Cure.

At the *Bath*, I have ſeen Gentlemen ſo far gone in this Diſeaſe, that their Faces have been of an exact Lemon Colour.——I have been much concern'd, to think how ſmall a Progreſs has been made in the Art of Healing.

Stone, *or* Nephritis.

The Stone is an exquiſite Pain on the Ureters, or Neck of the Bladder, — and is cauſed by a cold Stomach, hot Reins, and ill Digeſtion, which ſends Crudities into the Blood by the Lacteals. Theſe Crudities paſs to the Kidneys by the Emulgent Arteries, and not being ſo readily received by the Emulgent Veins, made Lodgment in the Pelvis, or Cavity of the Kidneys, where, by their Heat, they ſoon petrify: And thus Gravel is form'd; but never in the Bladder, as ſome conceive. This Gravel, or ſmall Stones, entering the Ureters, long and narrow Paſſages of exquiſite Senſe, cauſe great Pains, with violent Vomitings; and the ſame again, when they enter the Neck of the Bladder and Urethra; the Patient frequently

ly complaining of Pains in his Thigh; which I take to proceed from the Muſcle *Pſoas*, which reaches from the Reins thither.

If any of the ſmall Gravel ſhould accidentally adhere to any Part of the Bladder, it, like a Snow-ball, collects the finer Part of the Sand, till by its Weight it falls from its Cyſtis on the Neck of the Bladder; and then nothing is to be done but Lithotomy, or Cutting.

This brings melancholy Reflections on the unhappy Patient, ſince all the Endeavours of Phyſicians, Quacks, and Empyricks, to find out a Cure, have proved ineffectual. —— Many Trials have been made to find out a Diſſolvent for the Stone; and ſuch have been found out as will break the Stone, being laid in your Hand. —— But as nothing but an excrementitious Serum enters the Bladder, the Powers of every Medicine muſt be vaſtly weaken'd before they reach the Seat of the Diſtemper.

There is little to be done to eaſe the Patient in the Fits, or Paroxiſms, but to uſe ſuch Medicines as lubricate, and open the Paſſages; by which Means the Stone or Gravel will paſs more eaſily. —— As Bal-

ſam of *Capivy*, taking a large Spoonful in any Vehicle, whether Wine or Water. I know it is a common Method to give ſtrong Diureticks in ſuch Caſes. —— Now, the Coats of the Ureters being nervous, by ſuch Irritations contract themſelves, and hold the Stone more cloſely; whereas the Weight of the Urine is ſufficient to carry the Stone before it, if the Paſſages were ſufficiently dilated. —— I preſcribe the inmoſt Coat of the Gizzards of Pidgeons finely powder'd, to be taken Night and Morning, one Scruple in a Glaſs of White-Wine: But you may pleaſe to try one Ounce of Quickſilver every Morning for one Month. I have known this do Wonders. Clyſters often afford ſome Relief, as Turpentine opened with the Yolk of an Egg, and Urine added to it.

" TAKE Peach-Leaves in their Perfection,
" and dry them in the Sun, then break them
" pretty ſmall, and uſe them as Tea; but
" only half the Quantity."

I HAVE known it do very extraordinary Things in the Gravel, and equally beneficial to Gouty Perſons.

PALSEY,

PALSEY, *or* Paralyſis.

I AM now entering on nervous Diſeaſes: As to that Part of them which compoſe the ſeveral Species of Palſey, it will be Matter of no great Difficulty to diſtinguiſh and explain them. Nevertheleſs, I am ſenſible, as I launch farther into this Field, and treat of nervous Diſeaſes at large, there will be great Nicety required to give their ſeveral Deſcriptions, and make them ſo plain, that one may not be taken for the other; or even that they may not be taken for acute Caſes, which may prove of the worſt Conſequence to the Patient.

HEMIPLEGIE, *or* Hemiplexia.

THIS Species of the Palſey affects but one Side; which is owing to the doubling of the Dura Mater, called the *Falx*, by which the Brain is divided; ſo that, unleſs in extraordinary Caſes, the Paralyſis is ſeldom met with. The great Author of Nature has afforded us Duplicates in almoſt every Particular; ſo that in Caſe one becomes uſeleſs, or loſt,

loſt, yet the other in a great Meaſure ſupplies the Defect. Thus we have two Eyes, two Lobes of the Lungs, two Kidneys, two Teſticles; ſo that one Part remaining, Viſion, Reſpiration, Secretion, and Generation, are all perform'd. The *Mahometan* Women, in the greateſt Part of *Aſia*, deſtroy one Teſticle: No doubt they find their Account in it, becauſe the Males make their Addreſſes more frequently, where there is a leſs Expence of Spirits at each Evacuation. The Hemiplegie and Paralyſis are both cured by ſuch Medicines as open the Obſtructions of the Nerves; then the Animal Spirits recover a free Paſſage, and all Senſation returns.

In Recent Caſes, this Diſtemper is ſoon cured.

I was called to Mrs. *Potts*, the Mother of Mr. *John Potts* the Oilman. In the ſeventieth Year of her Age, ſhe was ſeized with this Hemiplegie, falling down with an entire Loſs of Senſe and Motion on one Side: Yet, by what I order'd her, ſhe was perfectly well in ten Days, and ſo continued many Years after. Many Inſtances of the like Nature I could produce, but they are at ſome Diſtance from *London*.

" In

" In this Caſe I bliſter the Arm, the Leg, " and the Thigh of the Side affected. I give " Mercurius Dulcis, and Cinnabar of Anti- " mony, each eight or ten Grains, which I " repeat every four or five Days. The in- " termediate Days, take Conſerve of Roman " Wormwood, Conſerve of the outward " Rinds of *Seville* Oranges, each one Ounce; " Angelica, Nutmegs, and Ginger candied, " each half an Ounce; Powder of Wake- " Robin three Drams, made into an Elec- " tuary with Syrup of Citron. Take the " Quantity of a large Nutmeg in the Morn- " ing, and at Five of the Clock in the After- " noon, drinking ſix Spoonfuls of the fol- " lowing Tincture."

" Take the Roots of Maſter-wort, Ele- " campane, Angelica, each one Ounce; " Leaves of Common Wormwood, Hore- " hound, Germander, each one Handful; " Tops of Centaury and St. John's Wort, " each half an Handful: Juniper Berries " two Ounces; the Rinds of Nine *Seville* " Oranges; Infuſe theſe in three Quarts of " White-Wine, ſtraining it off as you uſe " it. The ſame Method cures both Kinds " of Palſey."

By

By this Method, I cured Sir *John Blunt* in eight Days; and one Mrs. *May*, whoſe Huſband is an Officer belonging to *Doctors-Commons*, with ſeveral others I could mention.

St. VITUS's DANCE, *or* Chorea Sancti Viti.

THIS is a Palſey of a more remiſs Kind than the aforemention'd: I never knew any but young Perſons ſeized with it. If it begins in the Arm, it ſoon affects the Leg on the ſame Side, and ſo, *vice verſa*. It never wears of without proper Means.

THIS admits of the ſame Method of Cure as the Palſey.

THERE is another Species of the Palſey, known by the Name of the *Shaking Palſey*, 'Tis commonly the Effect of Old-Age, Intemperance, or a Malum Stamen Vitæ: It ever proceeds from a Deficiency of Animal Spirits.

APO-

APOPLEXY.

THIS, of all others, deſerves to have a Place amongſt the Acute Diſeaſes: But, as I am going to deſcribe thoſe of the Head, this Diſtemper, ſo remarkable, and ſo fatal, cannot be omitted.

WHATEVER affects the Head, muſt be either inflammatory, convulſive, or accidental, as from Contuſions, Bruiſes, and the like.

The Patient in an Apoplexy falls ſuddenly to the Ground, deprived of all Senſation and Motion.

SOME Phyſicians place this Diſtemper in the Center of the Brain; but that, with Submiſſion, can hardly account for the Effect it produces: Upon better Conſideration it will appear, that both Brains muſt be affected. That the Cerebrum, or great Brain, is ſo, appears from the Abolition of Senſe and Motion. That the Cerebellum, or little Brain, receives its Stroke likewiſe, is evident from the great Difficulty of Breathing the Patient labours under in this Diſeaſe; it being very juſtly

juſtly allowed, that this Brain is the Cauſe of all involuntary Motions, of which Breathing muſt be one. 'Tis not eaſy to conceive that this Diſtemper is ſo common as is pretended, when in more than fifty-ſeven Years Practice, I have met with no more than two.

VERY often the Denomination of this Diſeaſe is given to Epilepſies, and many Times to high Hypocondriacal Effects.

THERE are two Cauſes of Apoplexies: Blood extravaſated in the cortical Part of the Brain; or Convulſions, that immediately obſtruct the Animal Spirits.

THE firſt of theſe is incurable, it being impoſſible to draw the extravaſated Blood off; the latter, by proper Remedies, has been often removed, and the Patient cured.

" TAKE of Mercurius Dulcis, Cinnabar
" of Antimony, each one Scruple, made into
" a Bolus with Conſerve of Hips. Give
" ſuch Things as cauſe Sneezing; as the
" Roots of Hellebore, or the Leaves of
" Aſſarabacca powder'd. Bruiſe Garlick,
" which you may apply to the Hand,
" Wriſts, and Soles of the Feet. Likewiſe

" give

" give the Julep deſcribed in the Convulſive
" Aſthma, making it very ſtrong with Spirit
" of Sal Armoniac."

Falling Sickness, *or* Epilepſy.

THIS Diſtemper muſt be convulſive, it being impoſſible for any inflammatory Diſeaſe to ſeize the Patient ſo ſurpriſingly; for he would complain of Vertigoes, or great Pains in the Head, before the Paroxiſm; whereas it gives its Stroke without any previous Symptom, much like an Apoplexy, and is too often taken for that Diſtemper; as I have before obſerv'd. This affects likewiſe both Brains, which is viſible from its taking away all Senſe and Motion, and is attended with a Dyſpnœa, or Difficulty of Breathing, yet not ſo great as in Apoplexies.

IT plainly differs from other Convulſive Diſeaſes; ſince, in this Caſe, the Patient always falls on his Back, and is thrown down with great Violence, foaming much at the Mouth.

'TIS

'Tis cured by proper Neuroticks, little differing from the Methods of Cure in other Nervous Caſes.

During the Paroxiſm, what is preſcribed in the Apoplexy is not amiſs, Bleeding excepted. But to prevent Returns, take as preſcribed in the Convulſive Aſthma. All Convulſions proceeding pretty much from the ſame Cauſe, which we call an Ataxia, or irregular Motion of the Animal Spirits.

Hypocondriacal *and* Hysterical Diseases, Morbus Hypocondriacus & Hyſtericus.

Here are two different Names for the ſame Diſtemper; nor can they be diſtinguiſh'd otherwiſe than thus: What we call Hypocondriacal in Men, we term Hyſterical in Women. I ſhall enter only on Hyſterical Effects, becauſe they are more common, and more viſible in the finer Sex.

There is no Diſeaſe incident to Human Bodies but theſe Hyſtericiſm will counterfeit ſo exactly, that without the greateſt Caution the Phyſician muſt be deceiv'd.

As

As when it ſeizes the Head, it cauſes violent Pains, Vertigoes, ſtrong Convulſions, with Deprivation of Senſe; when it affects the Eyes, with Loſs of Sight for the preſent, great Quantities of pure Water iſſuing from them.

When the Heart, Palpitations.

When the Lungs, Succuſſions or Coughing; in ſome, much reſembling the Barking of a Dog.

When the Gullet, or Oeſophagus, Suffocation, with a great Swelling riſing up to the Throat: When the Side, a Pleuriſy: When the Stomach, Sickneſs, Pain, and Vomiting.

When the Inteſtines, the Cholick, often accompanied with a Diarrhœa, or Looſeneſs.

When the Kidneys and Neck of the Bladder, it many times cauſes a total Suppreſſion of the Urine, with Pains ſo like thoſe cauſed by the Gravel or the Stone, that it is impoſſible, *niſi à juvantibus & lædentibus*, to diſtinguiſh one from the other: When the Womb, all Diſtempers appear that are incident to it; all the Muſcles and Joints are

affected with Swellings, follow'd with torturing Pains without Inflammation.

NEITHER are the Teeth or Nails free: The Skin ſhall be often affected, becoming hot and dry, as in a burning Fever.

THE Scorbiculum Cordis, or Pit of the Stomach, is very often much diſorder'd with Pains, Tremblings and Sinkings, which often cauſe ſudden Motions to make Urine; which is not only larger in Quantity than uſual, but pale, and clear as Water from a Fountain.

THE Reaſon why the Pit of the Stomach is ſo generally affected, is, becauſe there is a Plexus, or Net of Nerves meeting there; which is a plain Indication, that all the ſeveral Symptoms above mentioned are Nervous.

I PROCEED to enquire into the Cauſe of ſo great a Variety of Symptoms, which is from an Ataxie, as we call it, or an irregular Motion of the Animal Spirits, which proceed from a Weakneſs of them; ſo that the leaſt Noiſe, Surprize, Trouble, Anger, or any other Paſſion of the Mind, immediately brings on the greateſt Diſorders and Confuſions,

ſions, and makes the Patient preſently blown up with Wind in almoſt every Part.

This Diſeaſe, which has the ſeveral Appearances of almoſt all acute Diſeaſes, without Matter or Corruption of the Fluids, makes me wonder that Phyſicians ſhould begin with Bleeding, Vomiting, Purging, and Bliſtering; and after that, have Recourſe to Fontanels, or Iſſues; then Steel, Bitters, Opiates, and the like; all directly contrary to the Practice before ſet down. Steel in Subſtance is very pernicious to human Bodies: Bitters rarely have their deſired Effects: Opiates only palliate, and at the ſame time give deeper Root to the Diſeaſe. The laſt Remedies preſcribed are *Bath* Waters, which are really good to repair decay'd Spirits.

The only Help which can be adminiſter'd in this Diſorder, is to fortify the Animal Spirits, and ſtrengthen the Genus Nervoſum: Which is done by proper Neuroticks, Deopulatives, and ſuch as ſtrengthen the Stomach, and help Digeſtion. In all theſe there are no Evacuations; and yet it may be affirm'd, theſe are proper Remedies in the above-mention'd Diſtemper.

I SHALL be very particular in my Account of every Thing that I ever found was of any Relief, or of any Uſe in theſe Caſes; which often proceeded from Diſorders of the Womb, it is of very great Import to ſee that Nature does her Part; that her Returns are regular, neither abounding, nor too ſparing; either of which, often cauſe Barrenneſs. In the firſt, uſe this Method:

" BLEED twelve Ounces from the Arm, " three or four Days before the Return of " Nature is expected. Take large Quanti- " ties of *Mynſight*'s Elixir of Vitriol, half a " large Spoonful in half a Pint of Spring " Water, three or four Times a Day; or of " *Eaton*'s Stiptick. Take of the Plaiſter, " De Minio, and the Rupture-Plaiſter, each " a like Quantity; two or three Drams of " the Loadſtone finely powder'd: Put this " to the Reins of the Back, avoiding all " Meats or Drinks that any way heat or in- " flame the Blood."

WHERE Nature is wanting, uſe the following Receipt.

" TAKE

" TAKE Salt of Steel one Ounce, Extract
" of Rue; make theſe into Pills: Take one
" going to Bed, and another in the Morn-
" ing; ſo increaſe till you take five Pills
" Night and Morning, drinking three or
" four Spoonfuls of the Julep preſcribed in
" the Convulſive Aſthma: Or take *Myn-*
" *ſight*'s Tincture of Steel, and Elixir Pro-
" prietatis, each a like Quantity. Of this
" you may take a large Spoonful in half a
" Pint of Spring Water, firſt in the Morn-
" ing, and at Five in the Afternoon, for a
" Month: Wear a Galbanum Plaiſter to your
" Navel. The Pills and Julep in the Con-
" vulſive Aſthma, taken and repeated every
" two or three Hours, when the Symptoms
" are at the higheſt, ſoon put a Stop to them.
" The *Indians* at the *Malucco Iſlands*, and
" the Ladies at *Smyrna*, often take Quick-
" ſilver as a Remedy againſt Barrenneſs. An
" Ounce may be taken once a Day for a
" Month or two, which will prove an ex-
" traordinary Remedy."

Extract of a Letter from Ruſſia.

SIR,

I WOULD be glad to be inform'd if there is any other Way to account for the common Uſe of Crude Mercury, in a Phyſical Way, among the Natives of *Finland*, who are at preſent ſo unacquainted with that Science, than to ſuppoſe they muſt by Tradition have handed it down from that diſtant Age in which *Abo* their Metropolis is ſaid to have been the Seat of Learning in *Europe*.

I SHALL beg Leave to add the following Story, which tho' I am well aſſured of the Truth of, yet I ſhould be very much obliged to you for your Opinion of it, and what other Obſervations of this Effect of Mercury have fallen under your Cognizance.

" AT *Yamburg* near *Narva*, one of the " Workmen of the Glaſs-Houſes there, un- " der my Direction, had been married twelve " Years without having had any Children, at " which time, having by accident ſpilt a Quan- " tity of Mercury, which he had bought to " ſilver Looking-Glaſſes, among his Houſe-

" Pro-

" Proviſion, which he had bought at the " ſame time, and put into the ſame Bag; he " ate the ſaid Proviſion ſo mixed with the " Mercury, and reckoning from that Time, " his Wife bore him a Son, which Son, as " being both by the Father and Mother, " and likewiſe by all their Acquaintance, " eſteem'd to have proceeded from the " Operation of the Mercury, was commonly " called by the Name of Артемій, " *(Artute)* the Name of *Mercury* in the " *Ruſſian* Language."

SAMUEL JENKINS.

GREEN SICKNESS, *or* Chloroſis.

THIS Diſeaſe is incident to the Female Sex only; and that for the moſt part in the Time of their Virginity. This formerly appear'd near the uſual Time of the Coming of the Menſtrua; but ſince Mothers have been ſo fooliſhly deſirous for nice Shapes for their Children, and in their tender Years have laced them ſo very ſtrait, they have not only brought this Diſtemper

on more early, but cauſed great Crookedneſs and Deformity of Body. To go farther: It ſo depraves the Juices of the Stomach, that the true Appetitions of Nature are wholly loſt: For what good Stomach ever called for Leather of old Trunks, Woollen or Linnen Rags, Cork, Nut-Shells, and almoſt every Thing that a healthy Stomach would nauſeate?

This Diſtemper is attended with great Pains in the Stomach, Shortneſs of Breath, with an Averſion to all manner of Motion. For theſe Reaſons, one would think, all Mothers ſhould become avow'd Enemies to lacing their Daughters, till they are in their Teens at ſooneſt; and not to act as if that wiſe Being, who formed us ſo perfect in the Womb, was ignorant how to model and ſhape us while we are growing to Years of Maturity.

The ill Conſequences that daily attend this Practice, might be thought ſufficient to deter Parents from it.

Let Mankind take a View of barbarous Countries, as I have done; contemplate thoſe People, where God and Nature have only been: Obſerve in what Order and Delicacy

their

their Muſcles are placed; how ſtrong their Bodies; how taper their Limbs. There are no full Shoulders, nor gummy Thighs or Legs, nor any Deformity: All Parts are conſpicuous, ſince the Natives have no more Cloathing than what our firſt Parents had during the ſhort Time of their Innocence. In ſome Places, they have not ſo much as a Fig-Leaf to conceal the Diſtinctions of either Sex.

THE Reader muſt pardon a ſhort Digreſſion: Since Mention has been made of *Mothers*, I can't but obſerve how religiouſly they reſtrain their Children from eating green Fruit, from a Notion that it breeds Worms: However ſingular I may appear in my Opinion, I hold the contrary to be true; green Fruit being rather a great Deſtroyer of Vermin.

'TIS *Ripe Fruits* that breed Worms; for it is manifeſt all animal Corruption turns to Vermin; and the ſame in vegetable Putrefaction. Now ripe Fruits being the laſt Fermentation of Perfection, or rather the firſt of Putrefaction, the Vermicular Ovaria muſt be very pregnant; which, when receiv'd in a depraved Stomach, may prove as proper a Nidus

Nidus for their Vivification, as the Corruption in which they are inveloped.

The moſt offenſive, and moſt dangerous of all Species of Vermin, are not viſible to the naked Eye.

For ſome Years laſt paſt, I have not ſo eaſily aſſented to ſeveral receiv'd Opinions in natural Philoſophy, as many others have done, who are ready *Jurare in verba alicujus Magiſtri*, but have thoroughly weigh'd and conſider'd them ſo far, as to be convinc'd that they are, for the Generality, falſe. I ſhall ſet down one vulgar Error more.

'Tis a generally receiv'd Notion, nay, even amongſt many Gentlemen of the Faculty, that Quickſilver is Poiſon: If ſuch Perſons are not aſhamed of their being no better natural Philoſophers, I have no Reaſon to be under Confuſion of Face for them.

Their Opinion is a Sign they have travelled *far* at *home*.

Let them take a Trip to *Hungary*, and viſit the Mines where the Quickſilver is dug; they may there ſee Slaves working entirely naked, to prevent the ſtealing this precious Jelly of Metals, as it may be called; yet every

every Day ſwallow ſo much, that they buy a Choppin of Drink with it at Night.

SEVERAL Phyſicians have enquired of my Patients, To what End do I give it? Wherein can the Efficacy or Power of it conſiſt? If they do not know, what follows may ſerve for Inſtruction.

FIRST, it ſecures the Patient from all Vermicular Diſeaſes, of which no Practitioner can be ſufficiently apprized, that has not ſpent ſome Time in hot Climates.

NEXT, it opens all Obſtructions, which are ſuppoſed to be another general Cauſe of Diſeaſes.

LASTLY, it makes a pure Balſam of the Blood, beyond all other Things in the Creation. Otherwiſe, why cannot Venereal Ulcers be cured without it? We often ſee thoſe Sores in a Salivation grow well, without the Help of a Surgeon.

I DESIRE to know, Why I am called *The Quickſilver Doctor*, by way of Deriſion? Pray do not you, Gentlemen Phyſicians, Surgeons, and Apothecaries, preſcribe it almoſt every Day of your Lives? I aver, you do: Only you diſguiſe it; and I give it in ſuch an open honeſt Manner, that my Patients cannot

cannot be deceiv'd in taking it. Let me aſk you, What is your Æthiops Mineral? Is it not Quickſilver ground to a black Powder, with Brimſtone, and in as great Eſteem with you as any of your Medicines? A very ingenious Phyſician ſays, This is like ſtriking a Man with your Sword in your Scabbard; and were it poſſible to have found a worſe Menſtruum than Sulphur, I do not know whether it ought not even then to have been tried. Certainly this Medicine ſhews a more than common Virtue, which can thus powerfully exert itſelf, when bound down by ſo contrary a Quality.

A PATIENT of mine, a Gentleman of Reputation and Figure, was lately taking of Quickſilver by my Direction. He told me, one of the moſt eminent Phyſicians here in Town ſaid, He was very ſorry to hear that I had put him under a Courſe of Quickſilver, and affirm'd it to be the moſt dangerous Medicine in the whole World, adviſing him by all Means to leave it off; when this Gentleman, at the ſame Time, was intimately acquainted with a Perſon who had the ſame Indiſpoſition with his own, and had Quickſilver preſcrib'd him by this very Doctor. He told

told me, beſides, in what Manner he gave it; which a Man who had ſtudied Phyſick only a Month, would have thought no ſmall Reflection upon his Judgment. I wiſh my Patient would have given me his Name, it ſhould have been put down in Words at full Length, for the general Good of Mankind.

[*Read the Second Part of the* Hoſpital Surgeon, *of the Nature and Virtues of Quickſilver.*]

Belloſt, the Author of this Book, calls it the Miracle of Nature, and the greateſt Gift of God in the whole Materia Medica.

I APPEAL to the Reader, if ſuch a Perſon as I lately mention'd deſerves the Title of *Doctor*. As for my Part, though I am but a poor *Batchelor* in Phyſick, I ſhall for ever ſcorn ſo mean, ſo diſhonourable a Behaviour.

THE following Paragraphs are taken out of the Writings of three learned Phyſicians, and will convince the World that I am not ſingle in the good Opinion I have of Quickſilver.

" I HAVE found the continual Uſe of " Æthiops Mineralis to be not only ſafe,

" but

" but always effectual; which is generally
" poſtponed to the other Preparations of Mer-
" cury upon this Account only, becauſe it
" is the moſt eaſily prepared of them all.
" Thus the Operation of Quickſilver holds
" univerſally the ſame; which, however
" conſtant it may be, hinders not yet in the
" leaſt, but that Quickſilver may be endow-
" ed alſo with other Properties; for it not
" only opens obſtructed Veſſels, but alſo as
" conſtantly blunts the Points of Acids.
" *Friend's Emenologia, Chap.* xiv.

" In Æthiops Mineral, and Cinnabar of
" Antimony, the Mercury is ſo bridled up
" by the Sulphur, that none of their ſenſible
" Operations and Appearances are felt, while
" they produce wonderful Changes in the
" Body. I cannot paſs over Æthiops Mi-
" neral without preſſing its more univerſal
" Uſe therein, for ought I know, it has yet
" had in common Practice. It is one of the
" moſt certain and univerſal Alteratives, if
" doſed ſufficiently, and long enough per-
" ſiſted in, of all the Diſpenſatory. It ra-
" dically extirpates the Itch, Piles, ſcorbutic
" and ſcrophulous Ulcers; all cutaneous
" Foulneſſes; all Inflammations and Fluxi-

" ons

" ons of the Eyes; all internal Ulcers,
" Rheumatiſms, White Swellings, ſharp Hu-
" mours in the Stomach and Guts; and al-
" moſt all Diſtempers ariſing from ſizy Jui-
" ces; I ſay it cures theſe, if Art can do it.
" It may be given almoſt to half an Ounce
" a Day, eſpecially with interſperſed Mer-
" curial Purges, without Trouble or any ſen-
" ſible Operation, and may be continued a
" Twelvemonth, if one pleaſes. I have had
" frequent Occaſion of trying the Æthiops
" in different Caſes, ſince the firſt Edition of
" my Treatiſe, and never without Succeſs.
" Amongſt others, I tried it upon a Perſon
" of an exceeding groſs corpulent Habit, who
" had paſs'd the Meridian of Life, for a ſpread-
" ing, foul, ſcorbutic Ulcer, which had af-
" fected the whole Ancle for more than a
" Span-Length quite round, and was pretty
" deep in the Outſide. He took three Drams
" made up with Syrup of Lemons, twice a
" Day for four Months ſucceſſively, and a
" gentle Mercurial Purge once in ten Days:
" This with a low cool Diet, and proper
" Dreſſings, heal'd it quite up, when it was
" generally thought ſcarce any Medicine,
" eſpecially ſo eaſy a one, would ever finiſh

" ſuch

" ſuch a Cure in ſuch a Conſtitution. The " Æthiops was taken without any Diſguſt, " Trouble, or Interruption of Buſineſs; and " it was obſervable, (and it is for the ſake " of this Obſervation chiefly that I mention " this Inſtance) that the very Ethiops " itſelf, after the Body had been fully re- " pleniſh'd with it, in two Months Time " forced itſelf through the ſound Part of the " Leg and Shin, and ſtuck to thoſe Parts of " the Plaiſter that covered them, in its " proper Subſtance and Colour, which ſhews " how readily this Medicine paſſes through " the ſmall Veſſels of the Glands. This very " Method never fails to cure Ophthalmia's, " even ſcrophulous ones; and is a moſt cer- " tain Remedy in an Ulcer of the Bladder, " as I have always found, if given in a ſuf- " ficient Doſe, and perſiſted in a ſufficient " Time."

Cheyne's Eſſay on the Gout, Edit. 2. Pag. 48, &c.

Please to obſerve the wonderful Effects which the Worthy and Learned Doctor *Cheyne* relates of the great Powers of the Æthiops Mineral, which is nothing but Quickſilver, and Brimſtone of equal Quantities,

tities, ſuppoſe one Ounce of Quickſilver to one Ounce of Brimſtone; now I leave it to the Judgment of Mankind, from which of theſe two, ſuch wonderful Effects can ariſe: I make no doubt, but all Mankind will give it for the Quickſilver, from the Obſervation Dr. *Cheyne* makes, That after the Body had been fully repleniſh'd with this Æthiops, in two Months time it forced itſelf through the ſound Part of the Leg and Shin, and ſtuck to thoſe Parts of the Plaiſter that cover'd it, in its proper Subſtance and Colour. Now is it poſſible for any one to believe that Brimſtone could ever pervade ſuch very fine Tubes, without the Mediation or Help of Quickſilver? But our learned Gentlemen tell you how injurious it would be to the Patient, if he ſhould take any Acid during the Uſe of Quickſilver: I affirm Brimſtone to be one of the ſtrongeſt Acids in Nature; now I forgive their Ignorance, having as little Knowledge of this Mixture, as almoſt of all Medicines found in their Preſcriptions. Pleaſe farther to hear what Dr. *Mead*, another eminent Phyſician, ſays in his *Treatiſe on Poiſons*, by way of Encomium on Quickſilver, *Page* 104, 105, and 106.

" What

" WHAT we are here chiefly to examine is, " how from Ingredients ſingly innocent and " harmleſs, ſo miſchievous a Compound can " reſult; for as the Caſe is very plain with " reſpect to Salt, ſo it is likewiſe now noto- " rious enough, that Quickſilver itſelf, which " the Ancients, *Dioſcordies*, *Galen*, *Pliny*, " *&c.* have unjuſtly ranked among Poiſons, " is, in many Diſeaſes, inwardly taken, " of very ſafe and beneficial Uſe, and that " not only when diſguiſed with Sulphur, " Sugar, *&c.* but Crude, without any Cor- " rection, or vainly pretended Mortifica- " tion."

THIS the *Arabian* Phyſicians firſt gave the Hint of; *Avicen* having obſerved, that they who drink it in a large Quantity, receive no Hurt, its Weight making a free Paſſage through the Body. This was Encouragement enough for the Practice of giving whole Pounds of it in the Iliac Paſſion; which is often times done with good Succeſs, without any frightful Symptom accompanying the Advantage received from its Ponderoſity.

AFTER-

AFTERWARDS it plainly appear'd that this Mineral, tho' not taken in ſo great a Doſe as could immediately force its Way through the Inteſtines, even when it was lodged for ſome time in this or that Part, was not at all hurtful by any corroſive or malignant Quality. And *Follopius*, *Braſavolus*, with others of great Note, confirm'd its harmleſs Efficacy, in the Cure of Worms, not only in Adult Perſons, but even in the more tender Conſtitutions of Children.

NOR are theſe the only Caſes in which good Service may be had from this weighty Fluid; he that rightly conſiders the State of the Animal Oeconomy, the various Alterations it ſuffers from the Stagnation of its more viſcid Juices in the ſmalleſt Canals, and how much the Impulſe and Force of the circling Blood, by which Obſtructions are to be removed, muſt be increaſed by carrying along with it ſuch Particles as the Mercurial Globuli, will perhaps ſee good Reaſon to allow, that the prudent and cautious Management of Quickſilver, may do that in ſome obſtinate and dangerous Diſeaſes, which we cannot promiſe ourſelves from any other of our known Medicines whatſoever.

But I am not to inſiſt on this Head; and the learned Author of the *New Theory of Fevers*, has already moſt ingeniouſly explain'd the Mechaniſm by which ſuch Effects as theſe are produced in the Human Body. It ſuffices to my preſent Purpoſe, to have proved that pure Mercury is not *poiſonous* or *corroſive*; and therefore, not only have I ſeen two Ounces of it given every Day, for one and twenty Days together, without any Inconvenience at all; but found once ſome Quantity of it in the Perinæum of a Subject I took from the Gallows for a Diſſection, (whoſe rotten Bones quickly diſcover'd what Diſeaſe it was had required the Uſe of it, and that, I ſuppoſe, chiefly in external Application by Unction) without any Mark of Corroſion of the Part where it was lodged.

Tho' withal, we may upon this Occaſion remark, that the extream Gravity of this Mineral alone, however ſerviceable it may be in other reſpects, yet when it happens in ſo great a Quantity to obſtruct the Capillary Ducts, as that the Force of the circling Fluid is not ſufficient to waſh it away, muſt neceſſarily induce Symptoms troubleſome and bad enough, as Spaſms, Contractions, Palſies,

Palſies, *&c.* which they do commonly experience, who have either been too often daubed with Mercurial Ointments, or for a long time employ'd in rubbing Quickſilver upon Looking-Glaſſes; for the internal Uſe of it will never produce ſuch Miſchiefs.

Much may be ſaid to ſhew the Impoſſibility of Quickſilver doing any Damage to the Patient; what gives Offence to Nature, is, what we term *Spiculæ*, Points or Edges. Now Quickſilver always retaining a globular Figure, together with the Softneſs of its Body, no Harm can happen from the Uſe of it; only this I would adviſe the Patient, that he get a ſmall Crucible, put into it the Quantity of a Piſtol-bullet of Quickſilver; ſet the Crucible on the Fire, if any of the ſoft Metals are put to it, they will remain, and the Quickſilver fly off. *Note*, A Pound of Lead coſts Two-pence, and a Pound of Quickſilver eight or ten Shillings; The Profit that ariſes may be one Cauſe of its Adulteration, and another to bring the Medicine into Diſrepute.

But let him take particular Care not to hang his Head over it; for the Effluvia are a Poiſon of the moſt ſubtile Nature.

Now does any thing ſo uſeful, ſo beneficial to Mankind, deſerve to be ſo much exploded, and treated with ſo much Calumny? But amongſt all their falſe Inſinuations, let them bring one ſingle Inſtance, well atteſted, of the Damage any one has received from it. Though I believe there never was a Medicine given, but ſometimes has proved not only detrimental to the Patient, but even Death itſelf has enſued, eſpecially when miſapplied: Witneſs the ſo much celebrated *Gaſcoign*'s Powder, which occaſions yearly the Loſs of many thouſand Subjects to the Crown. I aver, Quickſilver never did any harm to the Patient, which is more than can be ſaid of any other Medicine.

After all that has been ſaid on the Virtues of Quickſilver, our Doctors dare not preſcribe it, for fear of diſobliging the Apothecaries.

There is another prevailing Opinion, That Acids are the Cauſe of almoſt all Diſeaſes: Whereas they are not liable to Corruption, therefore muſt keep the Fluids pure, and without any Contamination: Nor can they be the Cauſe of any Fever, becauſe they are the greateſt Coolers we know of:

neither

neither can they be the Cauſe of any cutaneous Eruption, becauſe I know by Experience, (as I could bring many to teſtify) that they are a very powerful and effectual Remedy againſt ſuch Diſtempers.

I KNOW no Method more proper than what is laid down in the foregoing Chapter, where Nature is wanting.

Extract of a Letter from one Mr. MORGAN *in* Hanover-ſtreet, Hanover-ſquare.

THE Caſe of a Daughter of his, who had intirely loſt her Appetite, and her Belly ſwell'd to that Degree, that they thought it would have burſt; great Complaint of Stitches all over her Body, and the laſt Year troubled with fainting Fits, which came on ſo faſt, that he diſpaired of her Life till the next Day: He ſent for a Phyſician, who gave her Phyſick of ſeveral Sorts to kill Worms, as he thought; but finding ſhe grew worſe, he call'd in another, as eminent as any of the Profeſſion, who gave her ſeveral Vomits in the Morning faſting, and gave her Medicines to deſtroy the Vermin, but to no Purpoſe; he call'd in a third Phy-

ſician, who, he ſays, loved the Child as if ſhe had been his own, who was reſolved to try what Quickſilver would do; after taking it a third time, it brought away a Handful of the Ends of Thread and Ends of Silk, ſome being of a particular ſort, and believe ſhe muſt have had it in her near five Years; ſhe is now recover'd, and is in a much better State of Health, than ever ſince ſhe was born.

Your moſt humble Servant,

GEORGE MORGAN.

KING'S-EVIL, *or* Scrofula.

IS either Hereditary or Accidental; is ſeated in the Blood, and uſually deſcends to the Children, if either of the Parents ever had it.

THIS Diſeaſe is ſeldom met with but in young People. It generally appears firſt in the Glands of the Throat, with hard Swellings of a livid Colour, ſlow in coming to a Maturation, bearing the Touch without much

much Uneaſineſs, being attended with leſs Pain and Soreneſs than any other Ulcer, of what Kind ſoever.

The Accidental proceeds from any old Ulcer that has been long in curing, or from any Inflammation of the Eyes, which I have obſerv'd, in a very ſhort time, to become ſcrofulous.

The Hands, Feet, or any other Part, may be affected with it. Before the Patient comes to be Twenty-five Years of Age, 'tis rare but this Diſtemper naturally wears off. I was, ſome Years ſince, called to a Merchant's Son in this City, about Six Years old: He had this Diſeaſe in a violent Degree, in his private Parts, which were ſwelled to a prodigious Size; and at the ſame time afflicted with no leſs than ſeven Ulcers. I order'd him a Diet-Drink: Upon taking of which, the Swelling abated, and the Ulcers grew well, without any other Application than dry Lint.

The Spring following, this Diſtemper threatened a Return; but upon the Repetition of the Diet-Drink, he was perfectly recovered.

"TAKE Mercurius Dulcis one Dram, "Antimony reviv'd half a Dram. You "may give of this Medicine three, four, or "five Grains, according to the Age or "Strength of the Patient. Take this twice "a Week."

IN the intermediate Days, uſe the Diet-Drink following:

"TAKE of the Leaves of Senna half a "Pound, the Root of Monks Rheubarb ſe-"ven Ounces, the Root of the ſharp-"pointed Dock, the Roots of Polypody of "the Oak, of each four Ounces, the Roots "of Mizerion three Ounces and a half, Rue "leaves, Whitlow-Glaſs, each three Hand-"fuls, Rinds of Oranges dried ſix Ounces, "crude Antimony groſly powder'd one Pound. "Slice and bruiſe theſe; then put them in "a Bag, and boil them in four Gallons and "a half of middling Drink, to three Gal-"lons. Take half a Pint every Morning, "increaſing or leſſening the Doſe, accord-"ing to its Operation. By this very Me-"thod I have cured great Numbers.

ELEPHAN-

ELEPHANTIASIS.

THE worſt, and moſt obſtinate of Cutaneous Diſeaſes: 'Tis Vermicular.

THIS Species of Eruption does not always appear the ſame; ſometimes it breaks out like ſmall Boils, of ſeveral Colours; ſome yellow, ſome again white, and others of a livid Complexion. This laſt ſort ſometimes brings off the Patient's Nails. I had a Gentlewoman, in this Town, in this miſerable Condition; yet, in a ſhort time, ſhe was perfectly well. In ſome, this Diſtemper appears in an infinite Number of Water-Bladders, from whence iſſue great Quantities of a ſalt briny Matter, of ſo corroſive a Quality, that where it falls, it excoriates. Salivation, in theſe Caſes, has been tried without Succeſs; yet the Diſtemper yields to remedies in no reſpect violent.

USE the ſame Remedies preſcribed in the King's-Evil, taking Quickſilver, about an Ounce every Day for a long Continuance, which will prove of great Benefit.

Leprosy of the Greeks, *or* Lepra Græcorum.

THIS appears in a broad white Scale, surrounded with a small Circle of Red but almost even with the Skin; which, as People grow in Years, for the most part gets Ground; so that in Process of Time the Patient becomes very uneasy. This Disease is rarely cured; because the Nature of it is for the most part mistaken, by reason Physicians suppose it to proceed from an acid Quality in the Fluids; for which reason they pour in Alkalious Remedies of all sorts, which only add to the Matter of the Disease. Now, if any Person desires to be satisfied of this Mistake, I will venture to give such Proof of it, as shall be convincing, from the Experience of many learned Men, that there is no Acid of any kind in the Fluids; as *Pitcairn* says, the famous Mr. *Boyle* asserts; Sir *John Colebatch*'s Experiment with the Syrup of Violets is sufficient, to go no farther; Dr. *Borehaave* is in the same Way of Thinking.

But why ſhould Men of Art be ſo averſe to Cold-bathing in this Caſe? The *Iſraelites* were famous for an itchy ſcabby People; and the only Remedy we find they made uſe of, was Immerſion in cold Water.

Physicians object, That the Immerſion in cold Water, in Cutaneous Caſes, has often thrown this corrupt Matter on the Lungs, and cauſed Conſumptions. If they can make this appear from one ſingle Inſtance, it may give ſome Satisfaction, as to what they aſſert; though it will be far from proving their Concluſion to be true. What they ſay of Cold-bathing, is very different from what I have experienc'd in Practice, and from my Way of Thinking.

Upon the Patient's Immerſing in the moſt intenſe cold Water that can poſſibly be found, all the Heat is flung from the Surface of the Body, into its moſt inward Parts; when the Patient comes out, the Heat returning from whence it came, performs its Motion with that Elaſticity and Force, that it fills the Skin with vaſt Numbers of cutaneous Spots, by which the Blood becomes much finer, and thoſe corrupt Parts of the Fluids are diſcharged. For the Truth of this, I appeal

peal to every one that immerſes in very cold Water.

It may be farther preſumed, That whereas the Patient often complains of flying Pains in the Muſcles, which occaſion a great Inability to Motion; this Diſorder, generally ſpeaking, is cauſed from Wind blowing up the Muſcles beyond their due Tenſion: In which Caſe they will receive Benefit, not only from the cold Quality of the Water, but more from the Weight of it, which preſſes the Muſcles into their due Places, ſo that you find yourſelf inſtantly fitter for Motion.

In ſome Parts of *Aſia*, as ſoon as any one complains of Pains in their Muſcles and Bones, their Friends immediately throw them on the Ground, and kneel on them, at length, by preſſing their Muſcles, they are ſenſible of Relief.

I have dwelt the longer on this Head, becauſe I would have *Cold-bathing* grow as univerſal as, I hope, *Inoculation* in a ſhort Time will do. And now I have mentioned Inoculation, I ſhould think it unpardonable, if I ſhould take no Notice of her late Majeſty, as a great Promoter and Encourager of this Prac-

Practice. I believe the World will readily allow me, that her late Majesty was as much superior in her Understanding, to the Generality of her Sex, as she was superior to them in that Station in which Providence, so happily for Mankind, had placed her. How many are there that are ready to run into any Mode or Fashion, though never so extravagant, if it has but the Sanction of the Great? Let such, on this Occasion, imitate their late Queen. Is it possible they can be sollicitous in Matters of a trifling Nature, and shew little or no Regard to what is of infinite Importance to Mankind? Inoculation is as beneficial an Invention, in every Respect, as either this Age, or any of the preceding ones, have produced: Yet, what is very surprising, it meets with little Encouragement from the Ladies. Is Beauty, that arrives to such a Perfection in an *English* Climate, of so little Importance, that it is beneath our Care? What miserable Havock, what terrible Changes has this one Distemper produced in the most lovely and amiable Part of the Creation? The Ladies may possibly smile to hear a Man of Fourscore use such warm

Ex-

Expreſſions; but I will venture to ſay with Mr. *Dryden*, That

Old as I am, for Ladies Love unfit,
The Power of Beauty I remember yet.

I THEREFORE lament the ſmall and inconſiderable Progreſs which Inoculation has, as yet, made in *Great-Britain*. Phyſicians terrifying People from it, becauſe you may bring on ſome other Diſeaſe: When Dogs beget Bears and Lyons, and Horſes beget Bulls and Elephants, then will Inoculation produce other Diſeaſes beſides the Small-Pox, contrary to a known Maxim in the Schools; *Qualis eſt Cauſa, Talis eſt Effectus*; Such as the Cauſe is, ſuch is the Effect.

As to that ridiculous Aſperſion ſome People have caſt upon it, by calling it a *Tempting of* GOD, and bringing Diſeaſes upon our ſelves: This, to a thinking Perſon, muſt appear ſo frivolous, that it ſcarcely deſerves an Anſwer. Is there one ſingle Paſſage in the whole Sacred Writings, that reſtrains Mankind from anticipating an Evil, by making uſe of the proper Precautions for preventing it?

it? If theſe ſcrupulous Gentlemen, whoſe Conſciences were not always ſo ſtrait-laced, will produce me but one ſingle Inſtance of an abſolute Prohibition from Things of this Nature, I will readily acquieſce, and willingly retract my Error. I beg my Readers pardon for ſo long a Digreſſion; but I hope the Importance of the Subject will ſufficiently attone for it. I can aſſure them, what has been ſaid on this Occaſion, is not from any View to my own private Intereſt, but merely out of Regard to the general Good of Mankind.

BRANNY ITCH, *or* Pruritus Farinus.

THIS Sort of Eruption is much like Bran, from whence it takes its Name. 'Tis pretty univerſal, ſpreading all over the Body and Limbs; but is much eaſier cured than either of the former.

'TIS cured by the ſame Method with the Leproſy of the *Greeks*.

ITCH, *or* Pruritus.

THIS is the moſt common of all, very much infeſting the Sea-Coaſts of *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*; and is very contagious. It is cauſed generally by Filthineſs, and feeding much upon Fiſh. This even the Illiterate allow to be vermicular. In hot Climates I have ſeen the Vermin moving in the Puſtles. The Remedies which are uſed, undeniably prove the Diſeaſe to be very vermicular; for all Mercurial Ointments and Waſhes, nay, a Quickſilver Girdle, are the common Remedies; and we know nothing that ſo infallibly deſtroys Worms as Mercury.

I SHALL now proceed to give a Deſcription of moſt of the Acute Diſeaſes amongſt us, as I have done of the Chronic, except a Lethargy, which proceeds from too moiſt a Brain, and needs no Deſcription.

" TAKE one Quart of Spring-Water, diſ-
" ſolve in it one Dram of Sublimate, Cream
" of Tartar half an Ounce: Waſh the
" Puſtles

" Puſtles over with this at Night going to
" Bed: Change your Linen, and in three
" Nights at fartheſt you ſhall be well. 'Tis
" neceſſary at leaſt to purge. I likewiſe re-
" commend Bleeding."

PLAGUE, *or* Peſtis.

I SHALL begin with what the Learned Dr. *Willis* ſays of it: *Natura peſtis miaſmate virulento & Spirituali fundatur à quo Effluvia vaporoſa quaque verſus diffuſa adeo potenter ſe explicant, ut vel ex minimo ſeminario feracem mortis & exitii ſegetem cito propagent.*

By this he only deſign'd to deſcribe after what Manner the Infection is convey'd; which ſeems very reaſonable. Take the Deſcription of this Diſtemper as follows:

It begins, as all other Fevers do, with Intermiſſions of Heat and Cold; the Symptoms are higher than in any other Fever; intenſe Thirſt, violent Vomiting, Pains in the Head, Back, Joints, and all over the Muſcles; a total Failure and Proſtration of all Strength and Ability, as if there was, as

in Reality there is, a general Mortification of all the Fluids enſuing.

The Appearances, which come on in a few Hours, are what we call *Petechiæ*, or black Spots, with a Buboe or inflammatory Swelling in the Groin, or ſome other of the Emunctories.

This Diſeaſe is very ſoon at a Criſis, in three or four Days at the fartheſt, but generally ſooner.

When I took by Storm the two Cities of *Guaiaquil*, under the Line, in the *South Seas*, it happen'd, that not long before, the Plague had raged amongſt them. For our better Security, therefore, and keeping our People together, we lay in their Churches, and likewiſe brought thither the Plunder of the Cities: We were very much annoy'd with the Smell of dead Bodies. Theſe Bodies could hardly be ſaid to be buried: for the *Spaniards* abroad uſe no Coffins, but throw ſeveral dead Bodies one upon another, with only a Draw-board over them; ſo that it is no Wonder we receiv'd the Infection.

In a very few Days after we got on board, one of the Surgeons came to me, to acquaint me, that ſeveral of my Men were taken after a vio-

a violent Manner, with that Languor of Spirits, that they were not able to move. I immediately went among them, and, to my great Surpriſe, ſoon diſcerned what was the Matter. In leſs than Forty-eight Hours we had in our ſeveral Ships, one hundred and eighty Men in this miſerable Condition.

I ORDER'D the Surgeons to bleed them in both Arms, and to go round to them all, with Command to leave them bleeding till all were blooded, and then come and tie them up in their Turns. Thus they lay bleeding and fainting, ſo long, that I could not conceive they could loſe leſs than an hundred Ounces each Man.

IF we had loſt ſo great a Number of our People, the poor Remains muſt infallibly have periſh'd. I began to conſider, that the Plague was no more than a Fever of the moſt exalted Kind; and ſo *Duro huic nodo durior adhuc cuneus adhibendus.* A Fever we define to be *Aucta ſanguinis Fermentatio ſanguini & humoribus inducta.* The only Intention of Healing, muſt be to abate that preternatural Fermentation, and reſiſt Putrefaction, which muſt be by large Quantities of cooling and diluting Liquors. We

had on board Oil and Spirit of Vitriol ſufficient, which I cauſed to be mixed with Water to the Acidity of a Lemon, and made them drink very freely of it; ſo that notwithſtanding we had one hundred and eighty odd down in this moſt fatal Diſtemper, yet we loſt no more than ſeven or eight; and even theſe owed their Deaths to the ſtrong Liquors which their Meſs-Mates procured for them.

THEY had all Spots, which in the great Plague they call *Tokens*; few or none of the *Spaniards* eſcaped Death that had them; but my People had them, and Buboes too.

Now if we had had Recourſe to Alexipharmicks, ſuch as *Venice* Treacle, Diaſcordium, Mithridate, and ſuch-like good-for-nothing Compoſitions, or the moſt celebrated *Gaſcoin*'s Powder, or Bezoar, I make no Queſtion at all, conſidering the Heat of the Climate, but we had loſt every Man.

'TIS ſurpriſing to me, that Phyſicians can read ſo many Authors, and overlook the moſt reaſonable Rules for the Good and Preſervation of Mankind, and imbibe Principles, which, were it not for fear of giving Offence, I ſhould ſay, are contrary to common

mon Senſe. I ſhall inſtance in one more remarkable than all the reſt.

THE firſt Axiom that is laid down by *Riverius*, in his Theraputic Part of his Inſtitutes, is, *Omnis curandi Methodus à primo hoc & generaliſſimo principio deſumitur, contraria contrariis curantur.*

GALEN ſays, No Rule in the Mathematicks is more certain than this. I have had more than Fifty-nine Years Experience to back this Aſſertion, and in the worſt Climates.

READ the Man whoſe Reaſon was much ſuperior to mine, the honeſt and good Dr. *Sydenham*, and ſee if the Rule above was not his Guide.

SENNERTUS alſo, in his Inſtitutes, ſays, *Quicquid curatur, curatur contrariis.*

THIS very Rule has been ſo little regarded, that a Phyſician of this Town offer'd to lay Five Hundred Pounds with me, that I did not produce ſuch an Axiom; but as he grew cooler, he thought better of it. By this it appears, how little Notice is taken of the moſt uſeful Rules in the Art of Healing.

The SPOTTED FEVER.

IN this Diſtemper, as in all other Fevers, I preſcribe the cool Regimen, which muſt be follow'd in caſe Mankind prefer *Life* to *Death*; *Eaſe* to *Pain*; a ſhort Fit of Illneſs to a long and tedious one; a good, to a broken and ſhatter'd Conſtitution; laying aſide Bliſters, and all heating and poiſonous Powders: The former ſerve only to keep the Patient upon the Rack; the latter, to heighten and increaſe his Fever. —— And what is ſtill worſe, it extracts the Serum, which is the pureſt Part of the Blood.

SOME of our modern Phyſicians are extremely fond of a modiſh Remedy, call'd *Harts-Horn*; let them only make this Experiment. Mix a ſmall Quantity of *Harts-Horn* with the Venal Blood; they'll be ſurpriz'd to ſee as good Dirt as any they can meet with in their Streets. Mankind cannot fail of being infinitely oblig'd to them for ſuch an uſeful Invention. On the contrary, let them mix the ſame Quantity of Spirit of Vitriol with an equal Quantity of Blood, and

and it ſhall appear equally bright, and florid, with the Arterial Blood.

If it ſhould pleaſe God to afflict us with this Diſeaſe, ſome Perſons muſt be under no ſmall Concern to procure a ſufficient Quantity of Cantharides; for if it ſhould ſo happen that People went to their Graves with whole Skins, then the moſt ſovereign Remedy would be omitted. Now this great Catholicon does not only poiſon and inflame the Fluids, but draws off the purer Part of the Blood, which is the Serum. By this Practice the Maſs becomes more grumous and thick; ſo that Circulation is impeded, and the Patient ſuffocated: Whereas if there was Care taken to dilute and thin the Maſs of Blood, Circulation would be much eaſier maintain'd, and by this Means prevent Death. An eminent Phyſician was aſk'd, How Bliſtering came ſo much in Faſhion? He anſwer'd, They had it from the *Indians*. But I, that have ſeen more *Indians* than all the Phyſicians in *England*, deny that the *Indians* ever make uſe of Bliſters. They do often cauteriſe; and in all Fevers amongſt them, they cover the Patients over in the Sands till they are in a profuſe Sweat, and then throw them into

into the cold Water; by which Means they become well.

I SHOULD be glad to know if Dr. *Radcliff* ever uſed this unhuman Method of Bliſtering, as it is now in Vogue, I ſhould be glad to know likewiſe, if there is any Authority from any of our moſt approved Authors for ſuch a Practice. The honeſt Dr. *Sydenham* calls Bliſtering, *Humano corio ludere.* Dr. *Baynard* would ſay, That as *Beelzebub* ſignifies a Fly in the *Hebrew* Language, that the Devils were nothing but great Cantharides. We ſhould likewiſe be at a Loſs for Bezoar, that petrified Matter of Diſeaſe, cut out of the Paunches, Galls, and Bladders of ſome of the naſtieſt Creatures in being, as Guananoes, a monſtrous Beaſt between a Camel and a He-Goat, black Cattle, Hogs, Goats, and an ugly Animal they call *Pacos de la Tierra*, Monkeys, Porcupines, and all ſuch naſty Animals.

OF this I have been credibly inform'd by Perſons of the beſt Reputation, both in the *Eaſt* and *Weſt Indies.*

WE, in Diſſections, too often find in the Galls and Bladders of Human Bodies, great Quantities of Stones, which doubtleſs may

as

as well ſerve for Bezoar, as the diſeaſed Matter of the afore-mentioned Beaſts; they for the moſt part dying with theſe ſeveral ſorts of Stones, as by Experience 'tis daily ſeen we do.

Spotted Fever, *or* Febris Peſtilentialis.

THIS begins like the Plague, excepting that all the Symptoms are leſs violent; Intermiſſions of Heat and Cold, Vomiting, great Pains in the Head, Back, Limbs, Joints, and all the Muſcles, intenſe Thirſt. The firſt Criſis is the Petechiæ, or black Spots. If the Patient ſurvives this fatal Diſeaſe, the laſt Criſis, which we define to be *Subita & repentina mutatio in morbo facta vel ad ſalutem vel ad mortem divergens*, is ſeldom before the ſeventeenth or twenty-firſt Day.

ABOUT Fifty Years ſince, this Fever raged much in *Briſtol*, ſo that I viſited from twenty-five to thirty Patients, a Day for a conſiderable Time, beſides their poor Children taken into their Workhouſe, where I engaged

engaged myſelf, for the Encouragement of ſo good and charitable an Undertaking, to find them Phyſick, and give them Advice at my own Expence and Trouble, for the two firſt Years. All theſe poor Children in general had this Fever, yet no more than one died out of the whole Number, which was near two hundred.

I SHALL give a particular Inſtance of one Perſon cured in an uncommon Way.

ONE *Thomas Hacket*, an Apprentice to Mr. *John Scandrett*, a Grocer, in *Wine-ſtreet*, *Briſtol*, labouring under this fatal Fever, had a violent Hemorrhage, or Flux of Blood at his Noſe, notwithſtanding great Quantities of Blood were taken from his Arms, and the moſt cooling Medicines adminiſter'd which could be thought of; yet all prov'd ineffectual, inſomuch that there was no room to expect his Life. I order'd a large Veſſel to be filled below Stairs with Spring-Water. He was carried down in a Sheet, and put into
// the Water; he dipp'd his Head ſeveral times, upon which the Bleeding ſtopped. I believe he might continue in the Water a Quarter of an Hour; after which Time he was carried to Bed, only cover'd with a Sheet. He ſlept well

well that Night; the Spots all disappear'd; he was very well, only weak, and believe he is now living in *Bristol*.

This being of a very high inflammatory Nature, 'tis proper to take away large Quantities of Blood, giving the Purge described in the Gout every other Day, taking after it the same Night the following Draught.

" Black-Cherry-Water, Mint-Water, of " each one Ounce and a half; Plague-Water " half an Ounce, Diacodium ten Drams, " made into a Draught. On the Days you " do not purge, take the following: Con- " serve of Wood-Sorrel, of Hips, and Bar- " berries, of each one Ounce; Cream of " Tartar, and Tartar vitriolated, of each two " Drams; Syrup of Raspberries, enough to " make it into a fine Electuary. Take the " Quantity of a Nutmeg at four or five in " the Afternoon, and at Bed-Time, drinking " after it a Tea-spoonful of *Mynsicht*'s " Elixir of Vitriol in a large Glass of Water, " keeping the Patient very cool, and giving " large Draughts of cooling and diluting " Liquors."

The

The Flux Small Pox, *or* Variolæ Confluentes.

This Diſeaſe was, doubtleſs, long before the Time of *Hippocrates*, or the Divine old Man, as we call him; and yet 'tis very ſurpriſing he makes no mention of it; nor have we any *Greek* Word for it.

There are three Species of this Diſeaſe, commonly known to Phyſicians, the Confluent, Anomalous, and Diſtinct.

I shall venture to ſet down a fourth Kind, which I have obſerv'd, as different from the three former, as they are from each other; and which may be called the Spotted Kind.

I shall begin with the moſt fatal of the three firſt Sorts, the Confluent Small Pox.

This Diſtemper ſets out in the ſame Manner as other Fevers do, from the Plague to an Ague, Intermiſſions of Heat and Cold, Vomitings, great Thirſt, violent Pains in the Head, Back, *&c.* But the Phyſician may be aſſured where thoſe Lumbago's, or Pains in

in the Back, are complain'd of, let the Fever be of any Kind whatſoever, it certainly carries a Sting with it, though no Man can ſay what Species of Fever it will be, before its firſt Criſis.

Soon after the Patient is ſeiz'd with this Sort of the Small Pox, the Face and Hands, and all Parts of the Body, ſhall be very much inflamed, broad red Spots appearing; and the ſecond or third Day at fartheſt, there ſhall begin to appear an entire Bliſter from Head to Foot, often attended with ſpitting Blood, bloody Urine, and the like.

One would think, from the new-invented Way of curing this Diſtemper by Bliſtering, (for which no good Reaſon can be given, nor do I remember any Authority for it,) that this Diſeaſe muſt certainly bring its Remedy with it; for here is a Bliſter from Head to Foot, and conſequently this Confluent Kind of Small Pox ought to be leſs dangerous than the other two Sorts: But to our great Grief, we find this Sort to be more difficult to be cured, than either Peſtilential Fever or Plague; nor does any acute Diſeaſe come up to it for Danger, except the Fourth

Sort

Sort of Small Pox, of which I ſhall ſpeak hereafter.

It will be neceſſary to take Notice of the critical Days in this fatal Diſeaſe. There is little mention made of any critical Day in this Town but the *Ninth*, which is no critical Day, nor is it poſſible any juſt Reckoning can be kept by it. Thus, while People are ignorant of the Days of Danger, how can Proviſion be made againſt them?

The critical Days we ſhall venture to ſay, are the eighth, the eleventh, the fourteenth, the ſeventeenth, and the twenty-firſt; to be thus accounted.

If you are ill at ten of the Clock at Night, that muſt be call'd the firſt Day, as really it is, incluſive.

And 'tis thus we reckon Tertian and Quartan Agues.

The Reaſon why the Ninth Day comes to be accounted critical, is from People's reckoning from the Day of Eruption.

Now in Confluent Small Poxes, if the Patient begins to complain at Two or Three in the Morning, there ſhall be broad red Spots appear before Twelve at Night. 'Tis evident, the critical Days are much protracted by

by the Crudity of the Matter, which always happens when it appears ſo very ſoon, and by this Protraction the laſt critical Day comes to be the Twenty-firſt.

'Tis a known Maxim in Phyſick, *Primæ concoctionis vitium non corrigit ſecunda*; and ſo on.

In the Anomalous Kind, which is leſs crude, the Fourteenth or Seventeenth are the laſt critical Days; and in the Diſtinct Sort the Eleventh.

This Account, I will venture to ſay, is a true one; ſo that the Ninth Day has no Place amongſt the critical Days. If the Faculty pleaſe, it may be called one of the *Dies Indices*.

Anomalous Small Pox, *or* Variolæ Anomalæ.

THOUGH my Deſign is to treat of ſeveral acute Diſeaſes, yet there need no farther Deſcription than that where Symptoms appear high, the Fever will be of a more dangerous Kind; and where they are

more remiſs, the enſuing Diſtemper will be of a more favourable Sort.

This Species of Small-Pox is diſtinguiſhed from the other two, by its fluxing in ſome Parts, and being in others very Diſtinct.

The Phyſician may be very ſerviceable to his Patient in this Caſe, if it be rightly underſtood; otherwiſe the Patient often ſuffers Death. But it muſt be conſider'd, Nature is three Days forming variolous Matter: Moſt Phyſicians are too apt to be giving heating Medicines to throw it out, by which Means the Fever is very much increaſed, which brings on a great Ataxie, or irregular Motion of the Animal Spirits; ſo that all Digeſtion of the Morbific Matter is obſtructed, contrary to a known Maxim, *Cocta non cruda ſunt medicanda*; ſo that nothing but Water-Bladders and Blue Spots appear, which renders the Patient's Circumſtances very deplorable.

It muſt be want of Obſervation that makes Phyſicians ſo fearful of Bleeding in this Diſtemper after the Eruption. The good Dr. *Sydenham* goes no further than *Mittatur*

ſanguis

ſanguis quovis die ante tertium inclusive, which is but the ſecond Day after their Appearances. But the moſt excellent *Peter Bayrus*, of *Turin*, who wrote about Two Hundred and Fifty Years ſince, goes further; and I can affirm, by Experience, and from the Succeſs I have had, that the Patient may be blooded, every, or any Day, to the Twenty-firſt.

It is impoſſible it can paſs the Obſervation of Phyſicians, and People that uſually attend Women in this Species of Small Pox, that about the Sixth or Seventh Day great Floodings come, eſpecially if it happens in the Flower of their Age. Now all this is Arterial Blood, which is the Life and Spirit of Mankind: And this is never prejudicial, where no Endeavours are uſed to ſtop it. Nature will neither be forced, nor driven, and is often very hard to be led; but will do Wonders, when properly aſſiſted.

Now if ſo much Arterial Blood may be loſt without Inconvenience, how much more may be taken by Phlebotomy from the Veins, with the utmoſt Advantage to the Patient?

THERE is one Thing very material, and which ought principally to be regarded in this Diſtemper; that about the Seventh or Eighth Day there comes on a Ptyaliſm, which is a Salivation, without which the Patient never lives. Children that have it, never ſalivate, but have a Diarrhæa, or Looſeneſs, which is much the ſame in Effect. Where the Phyſician ſtops it, he kills the Child; and how many poor Babes have loſt their Lives by this Practice, it is terrible to think.

PERMIT me to give an Inſtance of a Gentleman, who was Steward to the Duke of *Beaufort*, one Mr. *Curr*: He had this Species of the Small-Pox; no Ptyaliſm coming on at the uſual Time, I gave him Mercury; but that not anſwering, and he lying as it were *in Extremis*, I reſolv'd to make a Child of him, and purge him to eight or ten Motions; by which he was ſo much reliev'd, that I went on in that Courſe every Day, till the Danger of his Diſtemper was over. He is now living in *South-Wales*, a Gentleman of 1000 *l.* *℔ Annum*.

THIS

This brings to my Mind a Saying of the great and learned Lord *Verulam*, *Non fingendum aut excogitandum, ſed inveniendum quid natura faciat aut ferat.*

Distinct Small Pox, *or* Variolæ Diſtinctæ.

There wants very little to be ſaid on this Kind of Small-Pox. I have heard of ſeveral, but never had one that died in this Caſe: The leſs is done, the better; for having but a few, they are never of a bad Sort; whereas, if you have many, they are never of a good Sort.

Spotted Small Pox.

This Sort begins with very high Symptoms, and appears with large red Spots, much like the Confluent Kind, with the Face and other Parts very much inflamed; yet in twelve Hours the Patient ſhall become perfectly pale, the very Middle of thoſe red Spots turning to a black corney Subſtance, hardly ſo big as a large Pin's

Head. Of this Sort, in Fifty-eight Years Practice, I have obſerv'd no more than five, all Children. I could never carry One to the firſt critical Day; whereas, in the Confluent Kind, they rarely die before.

"In this I bleed in large Quantities, "keeping the Patient very cool, and con- "ſtantly plying him with cool Tankards, "and ſuch diluting Liquors, giving every "Evening about Five of the Clock, an Ounce, "or an Ounce and an half of Diacodium. If "that does not procure Reſt, after three "Hours I repeat it. I ſharpen all his Malt- "Liquors with Spirit of Vitriol. If it be of "the Flux, or Animalous Kind, the Se- "venth Day I give of Mercurius Dulcis, "and Cinabar of Antimony, of each half a "Scruple, made into a Bolus with any Con- "ſerve; and do the like again the Thir- "teenth Day. The Tenth Day you may "begin to uſe the following Cordial in ſmall "Quantities.

"Take Cowſlip-Water, Mint-Water, "Black-Cherry-Water, of each three Oun- "ces, Plague-Water, and Aqua Mirabilis, "each an Ounce and half; prepared Pearl, "a Dram and half, ſweeten'd with fine Sugar,

" Sugar. You may ſometimes take a Glaſs of " Wine, agreeable to a known Maxim in " Phyſick; *In declinatione morbi quo magis* " *calefacis eo magis concoctionem promoves.*

" When the laſt critical Day is over, I " bleed to about twelve Ounces; the next " Day purge with that ſet down in the " Gout, taking a Quieting Draught of Dia- " codium at Night, when the Purging is " over. Purging and Bleeding very well " after this Diſeaſe, muſt upon no Account " be omitted; otherwiſe the Patient will " break out in Boils, and will have very " ſore and weak Eyes for a conſiderable time " after."

Whilst I lived with Dr. *Sydenham*, I had myſelf the Small-Pox, and fell ill on the Twelfth-Day. In the Beginning I loſt Twenty-two Ounces of Blood: He gave me a Vomit; but I find by Experience, Purging much better. I went abroad, by his Direction, till I was blind, and then took to my Bed. I had no Fire allow'd in my Room; my Windows were conſtantly open, my Bed-Clothes were order'd to be laid no higher than my Waiſt. He made me take twelve

Bottles of Small-Beer, acidalated with Spirit of Vitriol, every Twenty-four Hours. I had of this Anomalous Kind to a very great Degree, yet never loſt my Senſes one Moment.

THIS Method will ſerve very well in the Confluent Sort. This you may follow in the Diſtinct Small Pox; but in a more remiſs Degree.

Miſs CORBET had as high a Confluent Small-Pox as ever I ſaw, making bloody Water, and the worſt Symptoms attending her. Dr. *Mead* and another Phyſician left her, ſaying, She could not live ſix Hours. I was call'd to her; I deſir'd ſhe might inſtantly be blooded. The Right Honourable the Lady *Hatham*, her Mother, ſent for a Surgeon, who refuſed to do it, telling my Lady, that Dr. *Mead* ſaid, That if ſhe was blooded, ſhe would die inſtantly. I told the Lady, *That Colours were all the ſame to the Blind:* I had a *black Man* that blooded very well, and ſent for him, who perform'd the Operation: She loſt a vaſt Quantity of Blood. Miſs *Corbet* declared afterwards, That upon bleeding ſhe found her Spirits revived, and, as it were, a new

Life

Life coming on; and ſo it pleaſed God ſhe recover'd.

But there is lately a new Species of the Small-Pox, call'd, *The Honeycomb Small-Pox* never known before. The Uſe of Bliſters in this Diſeaſe, rob the Puſtles of the Matter contain'd in them; and then the Puſtles, by ſubſiding, ſomething reſemble an Honycomb. But if Doctors will create new Diſeaſes, 'tis fit they ſhould give them new Names.

Measles, *or* Morbilli.

This is a Diſeaſe chiefly incident to Youth, the Puſtles never riſing above the Superficies of the Skin, unleſs forced by too heating Medicines, and too hot a Regimen. It generally terminates the fourth or fifth Day, carrying with it little or no Danger, if the Phyſician be not over-buſy with his Cordials and forcing Medicines, which only increaſe the Fever, and by that Means often endanger the Patient.

I do not remember I ever heard of any one's dying of this Diſeaſe, till about thirty Years ſince; but of late, by the Help of *Gaſcoin's*

Gaſcoin's Powder, and Bezoartic Boluſſes, together with Bliſters, and a hot Regimen, (which, if experienc'd on a healthy Perſon, would endanger his Life) the Blood is ſo highly inflamed, and the Fever increaſed to that degree, that it is become equally mortal with the Small-Pox.

THERE is nothing farther required in the Cure of this Diſeaſe, than to give a little Diacodium at Night, allowing a ſufficient Quantity of cooling and diluting Liquors.

SCARLET FEVER, *or* Febris Scarletina.

THIS is a Fever of a milder Kind than the Meaſles, and does not want the Aſſiſtance of a Doctor. The Skin ſeems to be univerſally inflamed; but the Inflammation goes off in Forty-eight Hours.

THERE is alſo another Sort of Fever with Eruptions, too inconſiderable to make another Chapter. This Diſtemper, is called by ſome the *Swine Pox*, by others the *Chicken Pox*.

There

There is nothing more neceſſary in theſe light Fevers with Eruptions, than to purge duly after them.

Use the ſame Method as in the Meaſles.

Erysipelas, *or* Febris Eryſipelatoſa.

This Fever, when in the Face, is called *St. Anthony's Fire*; when in the Body or Limbs, *Eryſipelas*.

It appears with a very great Inflammation where it begins, with vaſt Numbers of Water-Bladders, and is very apt to turn to a Mortification, as it often does, inſomuch that the Patient loſes his Life: but by proper Remedies it is very eaſily cured, and in a few Days.

This Inflammatory Fever is curable by high bleeding, and frequent purging. The beſt topical Remedy is *Venice Treacle*, which prevents Mortification, and ſoon deſtroys the Puſtles, or Water-Bladders.

Perip-

PERIPNEUMONIE, *or* Peripneumonia.

THIS comes on as all other Species of Fevers do.

'TIS known by a violent, acute, and poignant Pain all round the Breaſt and Sides. In ſhort, a general Inflammation of that moſt ſenſible Membrane, the Pleura, accompanied with a great Difficulty of Breathing, ſhort Cough, Languor of Spirits, and kills in a very few Hours, without profuſe Bleeding.

THIS Diſtemper is incident to all Ages and Sexes, but generally ſeizes adult Perſons.

THE principal Thing required in the Cure of this Diſeaſe is Bleeding, which muſt be followed till all the poignant or ſhooting Pains are intirely removed.

" TAKE Oil of Lillies, Oil of Sweet Al-
" monds, Ointment of Althea, of each
" equal Quantities; rub it into the Parts af-
" fected very well, Morning and Night,
" putting a Sheet of brown Paper over it."

" TAKE of Melon, Pompion and Gourd-
" Seed, of each half an Ounce, white Poppy-

" Seeds

" Seeds three Drams, ten Jordan Almonds
" blanch'd; bruiſe theſe in a marble Mortar,
" pouring on, by little and little, a Pint
" and half of Barley-Water; add a little
" Sugar, and make an Emulſion. Let the
" Patient drink plentifully of this."

" TAKE Oil of Sweet Almonds two Ounces, of Syrup of Violets, and Syrup of Venus Maiden Hair, of each one Ounce, Sugar Candy half an Ounce, making it as ſharp with Spirit of Vitriol as a Seville Orange, and make a Lambative; take of it often in a Day from a Liquoriſh Stick."

PLEURISY, *or* Pleuritis.

THIS may be ſaid to be the half of a Peripneumonie, affecting one Side only. Some will have it that it falls only on the Left Side; but it often comes on the Right too. 'Tis an high inflammatory Fever, accompanied with violent, acute, and pricking Pains, with a ſhort Cough attending it, with which, after a little Time, if the Phyſician be not ready in bleeding it off, the Patient ſpits a bloody and purulent Matter, and is in Danger of a Conſumption.

The

The Cure is the ſame as in the foregoing Chapter. I never knew any one die of this Diſeaſe, but for want of Bleeding.

In this and in the Peripneumonie, I have found by Experience, that half a Dram of Olibanum given in any convenient Vehicle once in four or ſix Hours, far excells all other internal Means whatſoever.

Quinsey, *or* Angina.

This is one of the moſt violent and acute Fevers that can befal us. The Learned make not three Species, but rather three Degrees of it; *viz.* Cynanche, Synanche, and Paraſynanche. This inflames the Tonſils or Glands about the Throat, as alſo the Muſcles of the Wind-Pipe and Gullet, ſo that ſwallowing any Thing is totally obſtructed. This Diſeaſe yields to nothing but high Bleeding. Many have died in eight Hours, after the firſt Seizure.

" THIS Diſeaſe requires as high Bleeding
" as any; you muſt likewiſe open both
" Veins under the Tongue.

" TAKE Plantaine Water, Red-Roſe-Wa-
" ter, and Frogs-Spawn-Water, of each three
" Ounces, the Whites of three Eggs beaten
" to a Water, Syrup of Mulberries two Ounces,
" gargle your Throat often with theſe."

" ANOTHER Gargariſm, though this be a
" very good one, I much prefer: Take
" Spring-Water one Pint, Mercury Sublimate
" half a Dram, Cream of Tartar two Drams:
" levigate theſe very fine, then filtre it off for
" your Uſe. Purging is very requiſite."

RHEUMATISM, *or* Rheumatiſmus.

THIS is likewiſe a high inflammatory Fever: The Blood does not appear more pleurical or ſizey in any Diſtemper than in this.

THIS for the moſt part cauſes great Pains in the Joints? nor are the Muſcles free. If it fixes in any Part three or four Days, it often

often cauſes ſmall Tumours without Inflammation, which, as the Pains paſs to other Parts, ſoon diſappear, for they are never long fixed on any Part; from whence it takes the Name of Arthritis Vaga, or Wandring Gout.

In the Day-Time theſe Pains are very tollerable; but when the Patient is warm in Bed, very acute and torturing.

Bleeding in this Caſe is no Remedy: I myſelf having known very many loſe an Hundred Ounces of Blood, and more, without the leaſt Relief. The Cure is much eaſier performed without that Operation, as has been often experienced by ſeveral eminent Phyſicians.

" Take Turbith Mineral eight Grains,
" Conſerve of Hipps one Dram; make it
" into an Electuary. Take it about Four
" a-Clock in the Afternoon; between every
" Motion drink Poſſet-Drink. At Bed-Time
" take an Ounce, or an Ounce and half of
" Diacodium; drink plentifully of the E-
" mulſion preſcribed in the Peripneumonie.
" The next Night take of the Sweat as pre-
" ſcribed in the Gout. Immerſion in cold
" Water is a Remedy of ſingular Uſe.

Ague,

AGUE, *or* Febris Intermittens.

I HAVE obſerved, That a Conſumption was an inflammatory Diſeaſe ranged among the Chronics: An Ague is a nervous Diſtemper, placed among the Acute.

THIS Species of Fever does not proceed from an inflamed Maſs of Blood, as all other Fevers do, but from an Ataxie, or violent Motion of the Animal Spirits, which cauſes as great a Degree of Heat, as if the Blood were in the moſt exalted Fermentation: All Heat being nothing elſe but the Effect of Motion.

PHYSICIANS have been very much at a Loſs to find out the Cauſe and Seat of this Diſeaſe, it being, as was obſerved before, a nervous Fever. It muſt proceed from the Brain; otherwiſe how is it poſſible it ſhould keep its ſtated Periods, ſo as to come at the ſame Hour every Day, every third and every fourth Day, as it certainly does, reckoning the Day incluſive. Whereas in an inflamed Maſs of Blood, the Fever always

continues till the Inflammation is wholly taken off, and then the Fever ceaſes, without any return.

FARTHERMORE we ſay, *Ex juvantibus & lædentibus ſumitur indicatio.* Bleeding, 'tis plain from every one's Experience, is highly prejudicial in this Caſe. The Remedy to which this Diſtemper yields, is the Bark; which is the beſt Medicine, in nervous Caſes, known to Mankind. Yet the giving ſuch large Quantities of the groſs Part, has often done very great Prejudice to the Patient.

THE Virtue of this Vegetable conſiſts in a reſinous Quality; which, if ſeparated from the earthy Part, will prove a Remedy indeed.

IT may be wondered with what Difficulty the Uſe of the Bark was firſt introduced; and that it ſhould almoſt be look'd upon at preſent as a Panacea, is equally ſurpriſing; inſomuch, that now there is more Harm done by it, than it formerly did Good, the Doctor watching diligently for an Intermiſſion: Whereas there's great Difference between Intermiſſion and Remiſſion; for as all

Fevers

Fevers have their Times of Exacerbation, ſo neceſſarily they muſt have Times of Remiſſion, but none of Intermiſſion; becauſe then the Patient muſt be perfectly well and free, as in an Intermitting Fever. Too many pay dear for this Miſtake.

Dr. MORTON, eſteemed a good Phyſician, was a great Admirer of this Medicine, inſomuch that he gave it in almoſt all Caſes. I never obſerved it do any Good, but in nervous Complaints. Phyſicians and Apothecaries are little acquainted with the Nature of it. In *Peru* they call it Caſcarilla. It may be doubted if one hundred Weight of it be uſed in a whole Year throughout that Kingdom, which is more than twenty times as large as *Great Britain*.

" TAKE two Ounces of fine Bark groſly
" powdered; infuſe it cold in a Quart of
" Red Port for forty-eight Hours; then
" filtre it off as you uſe it, taking ſix Spoon-
" fuls every third or fourth Hour, begin-
" ning juſt when the Fit is off, till you have
" taken the whole Quart. Thus repeat it
" four times, and it will not return. This

" muſt be obſerved, If it purges, it will do
" no Service. In this Caſe put two or three
" Drops of Liquid Laudanum into each Doſe,
" till the Purging is ſtopp'd."

FEVER on the SPIRITS.

IT may be juſtly ſaid, All Fevers are on the Spirits, and no where elſe. 'Tis wiſely obſerved this Fever does not appear; to which may be readily anſwered, *De non exiſtentibus & de non apparentibus eadem eſt ratio.*

THIS naturally leads me to take Notice of the Fluids of Human Bodies; and I ſhall leave it to the Opinion of the Reader, in which of them a Fever begins or continues,

Now the Fluids conſiſt of animal, mineral, and vegetable Beings, Alkali's and Acids, which may be thus accounted, Spirit, Sulphur, Salt, Earth and Water: There is no Deſcription to be given of the firſt of theſe, unleſs a negative one; the two ſecond are Minerals; the other two the joint-cauſe of Vegetation.

LET

LET the Reader conſider, if a due Mixture of the four laſt are capable of begetting ſuch a Heat in human Bodies, as to cauſe a Fever without the Intervention of the Spirits, from whence it may reaſonably be concluded all Fevers proceed.

THIS is cured, as in the foregoing Chapter.

Diſeaſes of the Stomach. De Ventriculi affectibus.

ALMOST all Diſtempers proceed from a Vice in this Bowel; and it as rarely fails to have its Share in moſt Diſorders liable to human Bodies; as great Sickneſs, Pains, Convulſions, which are the uſual Complaints the Patient makes when this Part is affected. This ſeems principally to be cauſed from Indigeſtion; ſo that the crude Chyle mixing with the other Fluids, ſoon brings on Putrefaction; for if the firſt Digeſtion be not good, the ſecond never corrects the Vice of the firſt; as we ſay, *Primæ concoctionis vitium non corrigit ſecunda*,

and ſo on; ſo that any Diſtemper we are liable to, may, and, for the moſt part, does proceed from Indigeſtion.

VOMITING, in the forementioned Diſorders, if exploded, would prove beneficial to the Patient, it being contrary to the Rules of Nature; which has provided, that what is received at the Mouth, ſhould paſs to the common Draught: So that Purging ſeems more reaſonable; becauſe by that the Inteſtines, as well as the Stomach, are freed from their Filth and Impurities; which Vomits do not ſo effectually carry off.

THERE is farther this Diſadvantage, That the Fibres of the Stomach are drawn from their true Periſtaltick, to a contrary Motion, which is too great a Strain for thoſe fine Veſſels, by which means they become lax, and are much weakened, ſo that the Tone of the Stomach, by too frequent Repetition of this Practice, is wholly loſt.

I SHALL forbear to mention the many Inſtances that may be given of thoſe that have loſt their Lives under the Operation of Vomits.

'Tis confeſs'd, the Doctor many times gives Satisfaction to the Patient, by ſhewing the ſlimy Matter that is brought off the Stomach upon the Points of Feathers; whereas that Matter is neceſſary to promote Digeſtion. Let it be conſidered, for what End were thoſe little Cells formed in the Cruſta Villoſa; ſurely not to be kept empty, neither to be filled with what's of no Uſe or Benefit to Mankind.

" Take Salt of Wormwood two Drams,
" Juice of Lemon ſix Ounces, take a Spoon-
" ful of this every Hour: Or take of
" Spring Water half a Pint, *Mynſicht*'s Elixir
" of Vitriol a large Tea-ſpoonful: Take
" this in the Morning, at Five in the After-
" noon, and at Bed-time; Or take *Mynſicht*'s
" Tincture of Steel, Elixir Proprietatis,
" equal Quantities; take this in Water, as
" before, but double the Quantity. Crude
" Mercury, taking an Ounce every Day,
" exceeds all, taken in any Vehicle.

Diſeaſes of the INTESTINES. De affectibus Inteſtinorum.

THESE ſhall be placed in one Chapter, by reaſon of the nearneſs of their Relation to each other.

THE Duodenum is a Gut, ſo call'd from its Menſuration, being almoſt twelve Inches in Length.

THE Jejunum is ſo term'd, becauſe it is rare to find any Excrement in it.

AUTHORS have ſeldom taken Notice of any Diſtemper incident to theſe two Bowels.

THE third is the Ileon, *à circumferendo*. In this Inteſtine is ſeated the moſt painful and dangerous Diſeaſe, call'd the Iliac Paſſion; and by ſome, the *Miſerere mei*, from the acute Pains it gives the Patient, *Expertus loquor*.

IT begins with Vomitings, with a great Pain about the Navel; which increaſing, at laſt the Patient vomits up his Excrements, or any Clyſter given; and then it is incurable.

THIS

This does not proceed, as ſome People will have it, from a Twiſt in the Inteſtine, by reaſon of the Meſentery adhering to it; but it is cauſed from an Inverſion of the Periſtaltic or Vermicular Motion, which naturally moves downwards. Now, this being turned upwards, the Excrement being carried before it, preſſes on the Valves of the Inteſtines, which, together with its being contracted within itſelf, gives that miſerable and intolerable Pain.

The next of the Inteſtines is called the Cœcum, or Blind Gut. This hangs more like a Soldier's Knapſack, from the other Inteſtines; the Excrement paſſes in and out the ſame Way: I don't know that it is liable to any Diſtemper.

After this, comes the Colon, *ab impediendo*; becauſe it hinders the Excrement from paſſing too quick: Without this Retention of the Excrement, we ſhould be always ſubject to Diarrhœa's or Looſeneſſes.

The Diſeaſe incident to this Inteſtine, is called Cholera Morbus, the Cholick.

Of this there are two Kinds; either Bileous or Hyſterical; or when in Men, Hypochondriacal.

chondraical. As their Cauſes are widely different, ſo are the Methods of Cure.

The Rectum, or Streight Gut, in great Weakneſſes, is apt to fall down, which we call Procidentia Ani, and is known to every one that has it; and therefore needs no Deſcription.

The Sphincter-Muſcle is very ſubject to the Hæmorrhoides, or Piles, both within and without, which many times cauſe Fiſtulas in the Part.

Diſeaſes of the Inteſtines.

The Iliac Passion.

YOU need go no further for the Cure of this fatal Diſeaſe, than to take a Pound, or a Pound and half of Crude Mercury: And had the late Queen Carolina but taken the ſame Remedy, I will aver ſhe would have been well in Twelve Hours.

The

The CHOLICK.

" FOR the first of these, take Rheubarb, " Cream of Tartar, Liqorish, Co- " riander-Seeds, powder all these very fine; " take half a Dram Night and Morning in " a Glass of Wine: Or take Black Cherry- " Water, Mint-Water, of each two Ounces, " strong Cinnamon-Water, Liquid Lauda- " num twenty Drops; take this at Night " going to Bed; or take the Salt of Worm- " wood, as prescribed in Diseases of the " Stomach, for the other."

The Streight GUT,

IS often infested with little white flat Worms, call'd *Ascarides*, which are destroy'd by the following Clyster: Boil Quicksilver in Water in an Earthen Pot for two Hours; give it by way of Clyster.

The Caſe of Miſs *Corbet* was ſo very remarkable, that it made a very great Noiſe all over the Town, inſomuch that the Gentlemen of the Faculty ſeem'd to be much alarmed. The Right Honourable the Lady *Louiſa Barkeley*, being left off by other Phyſicians; and the Right Honourable the Lady *Rachael Mannors*, being likewiſe left off by her Phyſicians; it was agreed on all Hands, that I kept them alive ſeveral Days longer than was expected by any Perſon about them. The Lord *Irwin* died of the Small Pox near the ſame Time; as did the Duke of *Rutland*, and Mr. *Manſel*, of a great *Welſh* Family. Great Endeavours were uſed to ſaddle me with the Death of theſe three Gentlemen: It was given out by the Apothecaries, that I had killed all three of them, by introducing a new Method of Practice; whereas, to the beſt of my Knowledge, I never ſaw the Face of either of them.

I never affronted any Apothecary, unleſs ordering too little Phyſic; and curing a Patient too ſoon, is, in their Way of Thinking, an unpardonable Crime. I muſt confeſs, I never could bring an Apothecary's

Bill

Bill to three Pounds, in a Fever; whereas I have known ſome of their Bills, in this Diſeaſe, amount to forty, fifty, and ſixty Pounds. If they can't cure with leſs Charges, I can't forbear ſaying, That I have the ſame Opinion of their Integrity, as I have of their Underſtanding.

SINCE theſe Gentlemen have been pleas'd to take ſuch Liberties with my Character, I think I have an equal Right, or that, at leaſt, it will be pardonable in me, if I endeavour to lay open their Iniquities to the World:

So Modern 'Pothecaries learn the Art,
From Doctor's Bills, to play the Doctor's Part;
Bold in the Practice of miſtaken Rules,
Preſcribe, apply, and call their Maſters Fools.

POPE's Eſſay on Criticiſm.

WHEN I have attended ſome of my Patients, they have very often given it as a Reaſon for not ſeeing me, That I do not preſcribe every Time that I viſit them; and have likewiſe told me, That they learned this Doctrine from the Apothecary, *That 'tis your Writing-Phyſician only, who has a Title to a Fee.* I muſt own, at firſt Sight,

Sight, this carries a very good Face with it, and muſt naturally create in Patients a great Opinion of the Apothecary, who ſeems, in this Reſpect, to act merely out of Regard to their Welfare, and not from any View to the Doctor's Intereſt, or his own. But to me it appears very plainly a Deceit, however plauſible to others; and, to make it clear to you, only conſider, that if the Phyſician writes, it muſt be ten or twelve Shillings at leaſt in the Apothecary's Way; and, for my Part, I don't look upon this to be at all better than picking one Man's Pocket to put Money into another's.

Now I appeal to each unprejudic'd Reader, Whether, if a Phyſician muſt be compell'd to vary his Preſcriptions, when there is no Occaſion for it, he is conſequently left under the greateſt Uncertainty, and uncapable of judging what may, or may not be, of Benefit to his Patient? So that if ſuch a Practice does not prove fatal to the Patient, he runs at leaſt a very great Hazard of his Life.

'Tis my Opinion, the leſs Apothecaries Gains are, the better the Patients may afford to ſee their Doctor. I know very well, I

am

am no ſooner called to a Patient, but it is reported immediately, He is dead, and I have killed him; as in the Caſe of Sir *John Blunt*, about eight Years ſince, who was ſtruck with the Dead-Palſey: However, in four Days, his Senſes were perfectly reſtored to him; and in twelve Days he had the ſame Motion, Life, and Senſation, on that Side which was ſtruck, as on the Side that was not affected.

If by what I have ſaid, I have diſobliged all the Apothecaries in the Kingdom, I have not many more Enemies amongſt them, than I had before. If it ſhould be aſk'd now, What was the original Ground of their Diſlike to me? I can give no other Reaſon, than my being always inviolably attach'd to the Intereſt and Welfare of my Patient, and entirely regardleſs of theſe Gentlemen's unwarrantable Gains.

If, after all that has been ſaid, I am ſtill to be recommended by Apothecaries, and muſt depend entirely upon their good Word, I can aſſure the World, I ſhall ſoon retire; where none, except the Poor, will have any Aſſiſtance from me.

I AM

I AM very ſenſible, my Method in curing Fevers is much exploded, becauſe I act quite contrary to the common Practice. I happen'd to live in *Glouceſterſhire*, in the Years 1728 and 1729; when a fatal Epidemical Fever raged to ſuch a Degree to ſweep off whole Families, nay, almoſt whole Villages. I was called to ſeveral Houſes, where eight or nine Perſons were down at a Time, and yet did not ſo much as loſe one Patient where I was concern'd. I defy the Malice of my moſt implacable Enemies to make it appear, that, in my Ten Years laſt Practice, I have loſt Twelve Patients, in all kinds of Fevers put together.

THE Caſe of *John-Dinely Goodeere*, Eſq; of *Charlton* in *Worceſterſhire*, near *Eveſham*, was very remarkable: Some Years ago, when he was in *London*, he was ſeized with a violent Fever: He was unwilling that Sir *Edward Goodeere*, his Father, who was in Town at the ſame Time, ſhould know any Thing of it; ſo that he was, as it were, *in Extremis* before his Father was acquainted with it. He order'd me immediately to be called to his Son, whoſe Eyes were ſet in his Head, his Jaws fallen, his Tongue directly black and

and hard, his Face as black as an *Indian*, with round Drops upon it as big as Peaſe or Pulſe. The Apothecary being preſent, I aſked him if he blooded? He told me, Yes; and accordingly got every thing in order for it. I bid him take care to make a large Orifice, which he did. He aſked me how much Blood he muſt take away? I anſwer'd, I could not tell. He ſaid he had taken off twelve Ounces. I ſaid, Let the Patient bleed on. The Apothecary now told me, he had drawn twenty Ounces. Then I diſcern'd ſomething of a Pulſe coming on in my Patient. In the Concluſion, he bled to forty-eight or fifty Ounces. The Sweat went off, and his Face came to its Colour. Whilſt he was bleeding, I got a Cool Tankard of Rheniſh Wine, Water and Lemon, which held near three Quarts: I raiſed him upon his Pillow, and gave him about a Pint-glaſs full; and immediately after he began to move his Eyes, and cloſe his Jaws. In a very ſhort Time after, I gave him a couple of Glaſſes more. He then fixed his Eyes hard upon me, put his Hand out to me, and ſaid, *Is it you, my dear Friend?* I aſked him, *if he could drink?* He anſwer'd, the *Ocean*. I made thoſe

about him rub his Head with dry Cloths, and then aſked how he found himſelf? He anſwer'd, *In a ſtrange confuſed Condition.* In one Hour, or thereabouts, he flung the Clothes off the Bed, put his Feet in his Slippers, call'd for his Night-Gown, walked to the other Side of the Room, ſet himſelf down in a two-arm'd Chair; *Now my dear Friend,* (ſays he) *we will have one Flaſk of Claret together.* I told him, *I would drink a Flaſk of Claret, but that he muſt ſtick to his Cool Tankard.*

THE next Morning, when I came to wait on him, he was down in the Stable amongſt his Horſes, without a Cap, having nothing on but his Night-Gown and Slippers. I aſked him *how he did?* He ſaid, *Never better in all his Life.* This was in the Month of *March.* Now, this is term'd a deſperate Way of Practice; but then they who condemn it, ſhould give an Inſtance of any one I have loſt by ſuch Methods.

WHEREAS ſome People have maliciouſly reported, That *John-Dinely Goodeere,* Eſq; inſtead of the moſt violent Fever that I ever ſaw,

ſaw, labour'd only under a Fit of Drunkenneſs: To convince them of their Error, I have here inſerted a Paper written by Sir *Edward Goodeere*, and which he deliver'd to me with his own Hands. Take it in his own Words:

" HAVING read my Son's Caſe in " Dr. *Dover's Legacy*, I do affirm " what he has ſet down to be literally true: " and this I inſert for the Good of all Man- " kind in ſuch a Caſe."

Edward Goodeere.

THERE is nothing more certain, than that the whole Animal Creation is liable to divers Kinds of Diſeaſes; and it is as certain, that the Almighty Goodneſs has afforded Animals ſuch Appetitions of Nature, or Inſtinct, that we daily ſee they have Recourſe to ſuch Remedies, whereby they recover their Health. Birds reſort to their ſeveral ſorts of Caſtings, when their Stomachs are deprav'd; in Fevers, to Cold Bathing; or when they have gorged themſelves with too much

Food, then to their Weatherings on the Tops of high Trees. Let but a Lady's Lap-Dog go out in the Fields, he ſhall ſearch every where to find out the *Gramen Caninum*, or *Dog-Graſs*, of which he ſhall eat till he both vomits and purges. As for the *Reptilia*, thoſe ſmall Animals, there is no doubt to be made, but they have alſo their Remedies. Now, by our Treatment of the ſeveral Diſeaſes incident to us, it ſeems as if Providence had exempted us from this great Benefit afforded to the ſubordinate Creatures. If we have a Fever, we muſt be kept cloſe, and ply'd with the moſt heating Remedies; be denied cooling and diluting Liquors, and every thing elſe that we call for with the greateſt Earneſtneſs. This is contradicting the Rules of Nature, and moſt certainly wrong. Right Reaſon and the Rules of Nature will eternally tally.

I AM credibly inform'd the moſt learned and ingenious Dr. *Boerhaave*, in all Fevers bleeds plentifully, gives Air to his Patients immediately, tears off all Bliſters, and indulges the ſick Perſon with all Manner of cooling and diluting Liquors.

THE Remedies that have been preſcribed for the ſeveral Diſtempers mention'd in this Treatiſe, may, with GOD's Bleſſing upon them, be depended on as very efficacious in the Cure of each particular Diſeaſe, unleſs a Perſon has a Complication of Diſtempers upon him at once. But I muſt give the Reader one Caution, That there is a great Difference in the ſeveral Conſtitutions of Mankind; and therefore it muſt be left to every Man's Diſcretion, as to the Quantity he is to take of each of theſe Medicines.

I HAVE gone through moſt of the Diſtempers common to the Climate we live in; and have ſhewn, at the ſame time, what is the moſt likely Method of curing them; and hope, that as to the Plainneſs of my Style, and making the Deſcription intelligible, I have been as good as my Promiſe, made in the Beginning of this Treatiſe.

I DO not ſeek for Applauſe from this Performance, eſpecially from the Gentlemen of the Faculty, being ſenſible how many great and powerful Enemies I have amongſt them: Who, as they have done all they could hitherto to diſcredit my Practice, ſo probably will take Occaſion, from the Publication of

theſe Sheets, to improve their Invectives and Reſentments againſt me: But as Cuſtom has made ill Uſage familiar to me, I think I am prepared for any future Calumny. In the mean time, I would caution unwary People againſt one Thing, which is, Not to take every Graduate for a Phyſician, nor a Clan of prejudiced Gentlemen for Oracles. Experience is all in all; and I will venture to ſay, ſome Experience has fallen to my Share, having ſought it in other Places beſides the Shops of Apothecaries, or the Colleges of Phyſicians.

POSTSCRIPT.

HAVING omitted the following Letter from *Anthony Balam*, Eſq; in *Great Ruſſel-Street*, which I deſign'd to have inſerted when I was ſpeaking of *Quick-ſilver*, I ſhall give it my Readers in this Place.

London,

London, 15 *April*, 1732.

SIR,

" YOU have always, undoubtedly, great " Satisfaction in hearing Succeſs at- " tends your Advice, eſpecially in obſtinate " Chronic Caſes, which have long baffled " the Power of Phyſic.

" I therefore think myſelf indiſpenſibly " obliged to give you that Pleaſure, ſo much " your Due, in reciting the Effects of your " Preſcription.

" You will, I am ſure, excuſe me from " the difficult Attempt of explaining my " Caſe; which, were I able to execute, " would be needleſs to you, who are ſo well " acquainted with it. Let it therefore ſuf- " fice to ſay, That my Aſthma has been " from my Infancy, and at different times " has afflicted me under all the various " Shapes that Diſtemper exhibits in all the " Patients I ever yet convers'd with, and " that I never found any very ſenſible Re- " lief from Phyſic. Some time in *De-* " *cember* laſt was Twelve-months, you ad-

" viſed me to take Quickſilver: I happily
" reſolv'd to follow this Advice, and imme-
" diately found great Relief. Other Diſor-
" ders, after ſome time uſing it, intervening,
" occaſioned ſome Interruptions in my
" Courſe; and from *June* till *October*, being
" in the Country, I quite forbore the Uſe of
" it; but at that Time I again began taking
" it an Ounce *per* Day, and have hither-
" to continued it with very few intermiſ-
" ſions: The Conſequence of which is, that
" from the firſt Time of taking it, to this In-
" ſtant, I never had any violent Fit; and
" during all the laſt Winter, I have not been
" confined, otherwiſe than through Precau-
" tion, to avoid the Inclemencies of very
" bad Weather, or upon ſlight Attacks,
" when Reſt is always preferable to any the
" leaſt Motion. My Complaints, though
" very greatly diminiſh'd, I cannot ſay are
" abſolutely remov'd; I have had frequent
" Symptoms threatening me, and eſpecially
" this Spring; the Variableneſs of the Wea-
" ther being always a great Enemy to me.
" But happy in a high degree is my preſent
" Condition, when compared with my for-

" mer.

" mer. To you I am indebted for this Hap-
" pineſs; and I ſhall be always ready to
" make ſuch Acknowledgements of it, as
" the moſt grateful Senſe can inſpire.

" If you think my Name may do any
" Service, in encouraging other Sufferers to
" try a Remedy, which, by my Experience
" in a long Uſe, proves not only very in-
" nocent of the Charge of bringing on other
" bad Conſequences, but likewiſe the ſole
" efficacious one in this lamentable Diſorder,
" you are very welcome to make ſuch Uſe
" of it as you may think proper.

" I HAVE the Liberty to mention another
" Gentleman's Name, who, through my
" Means, and by Encouragement from me,
" has reaped a much greater Advantage from
" your Advice than myſelf. Mr. *Moore*,
" who lives at *Epſom*, has been troubled
" from his Infancy with an Aſthma in an
" extream Degree. About laſt *February* was
" Twelve-month he began the Uſe of
" Quickſilver; he has taken it ever ſince,
" with very few Intermiſſions: he has from
" that Time had but two ſmall Fits; the

" laſt

" laſt was in *Auguſt* paſt, and was the leaſt
" of the two: Since that Time he has not
" had one Aſthmatic Symptom; and from
" not being able ſcarcely ever to walk,
" he has, for his Diverſion, walk'd from
" *London* to *Epſom*.

" I WISH you may ſoon produce ſo many
" other Examples of ſuch Cures, as may
" overcome all Prejudices and groundleſs
" Fears, and propagate the merited Credit
" of ſo ſalutiferous a Remedy. I am,

SIR,

Your moſt obliged,

and very humble Servant,

To Dr. DOVER.

ANTHONY BALAM.

SIR,

SIR,

THOUGH a Stranger to the Nature of Quickſilver, and its Manner of Operation; yet being fully convinced of its Power and Advantage from Experience, (which is generally eſteemed the beſt Maſter,) I think I ſhould be ungrateful to GOD, and unjuſt to you and Mankind, ſhould I be ſilent amidſt the Clamours and Artifices, which are made uſe of to leſſen your Reputation, and deter the World from being benefited by one of the beſt Remedies, perhaps, in Phyſic, if I may be allowed to ſpeak what I know: And I have had a long and frequent Experience of it in many Caſes in my own Family; more particularly in a Niece of mine, who was with me ſome Time for Education, who, from a Fever which ſhe for Years together was annually ſubject to, and was ſo reduced, that her Life was deſpaired of, ſhe finding no Benefit from all ſhe took, you may remember, Sir, you was called in, and by taking of Quickſilver by your Advice for fourteen Mornings together, and afterwards *Mynſicht*'s Elixir of Vitriol, with frequent Bleeding, ſhe

ſhe was reſtored to, and, by God's Bleſſing, ſtill enjoys a healthy Conſtitution: I had likewiſe a Nephew, who lay three Weeks in a moſt languiſhing Condition: His Body was diſtorted, his Hip and Shoulder being almoſt drawn together; no Help could be found, (though no Advice or Aſſiſtance was wanting,) till, by your Direction, he took Quickſilver, which in three Mornings ſet him perfectly ſtrait, and has remained ſo ever ſince. If you think making this Public may be of any Service, you have my free Conſent to do with it as you will; who am,

SIR,

Your moſt obliged

London, March 10, 1732.

humble Servant,

Jo. Pott.

To Dr. Thomas Dover,
Theſe.

SIR,

SIR,

I HAD the Gout in my Stomach and Bowels for a conſiderable Time, inſomuch that I had two Phyſicians with me for ſix Weeks: They gave me all the heating Medicines they could contrive or think of, but all to no Purpoſe; ſo that at the laſt, I was brought to extreme Faintings and Cold Sweats, that I wetted a Pair of Sheets in an Hour.

A VERY worthy neighbouring Gentleman hearing of my miſerable Condition, came to ſee me, and perſuaded me to take two Ounces of Quickſilver; which I accordingly did, and found Relief thereby in four Hours Time, and in three Days all the gouty Matters were thrown down into my Feet. Upon which I perſiſted in taking of Quickſilver; and have ever ſince enjoy'd a good State of Health, which is for near two Years Space. I am,

SIR,

Your humble Servant,

Calne, in *Wiltſhire*,
April 20, 1733.

HARVEY.

To Dr. DOVER *in* London.

SIR,

Lewſham, Feb. 14th, 1732-3.

SIR,

A GENTLEMAN the other Day put a Book into my Hands, that lately came out againſt taking of Quickſilver: I think the Author very bold, ſince there are ſo many living Evidences that have received ſuch Benefit, when nothing elſe would afford them Eaſe.

I HAVE been troubled with an Aſthma from my Infancy; and have conſulted many of the moſt noted Phyſicians of my Time, both at Home and Abroad, without the leaſt Relief: My Fits uſed to attack me in fourteen, ſixteen, or twenty-one Days, without being able to go to Bed for two or three Days and Nights. On the Twenty-firſt of *April* laſt, in a violent Fit, I took an Ounce of crude Mercury, and have continued it. I am ſo happy to know nothing of an Aſthma ſince *June* laſt, notwithſtanding I have caught ſeveral ſevere Colds this Winter.

I MAKE bold to trouble you with this for the Sake of other poor Sufferers, leſt they might be frighten'd from ſo beneficial a Remedy to Mankind.

I NEED

I NEED not acquaint you, Sir, of the Safety of the Quickſilver; but I aſſure you, in the Abſence of my Fits, all my Life-Time, I lived freely, and ſince my taking it, have never gone one Jot out of my Road either in Eating or Drinking; but never knew what it was to enjoy Health before.

I THOUGHT myſelf obliged to return you my hearty Thanks: For 'tis to you I enjoy my preſent happy Condition, and ſhall always be proud to acknowledge it; and know many more are ready to deſtroy all Prejudices againſt it. I am,

SIR,

Your moſt obliged

Humble Servant,

WILL. MOSES.

P. S. I am removed from *Greenwich* to *Lewſham*; ſhall always be proud to kiſs your Hand.

To Dr. DOVER *in* London,
Theſe.

SIR,

SIR,

I SEND you my promiſed Caſe, a very ſad one formerly; but now, (Thanks be to GOD, and to his Kindneſs under whoſe Cover I convey this to you,) it is ſo much mended, and the Means of Relief ſo plainly in my own Power, that I live a very comfortable Life, in compariſon of the long Time I was troubled very grievouſly with an Aſthma.

ABOUT twenty-five Years ago it firſt came and fixed upon me; a violent Cold and Catarrh brought it; and the Misfortune of no good Advice for a Cure, ſettled and confirmed it.

AT firſt I had it moſt in Town, and in the Winter; but the Country and Summer always gave me Eaſe for two or three Years together.

AFTERWARDS, upon a great Cold taken, my Aſthma became periodical, and followed me every where with very little Variation.

IT was of the ſpitting, flatulent Kind, always attended with a Fever, and ſometimes, I thought, convulſive: What made me to judge ſo was, that in great Struggles, when I could extend my Arms, and with my Hands

Hands graſp any Thing hard, bending my Body low and forward, for the freer Play of the Lungs, I breathed eaſier.

To tell you all my Sufferings, and Endeavours for Eaſe in that unhappy State, would be too tedious. In ſhort, I was ſo ill, and had ſo many Friends concern'd for me, that I wanted no Advice, and left none untried: I run through long Courſes of Phyſic, of all the Kinds, and at all Hazards; and by many raſh and indiſcreet Doings of my own, as well as of my Adviſers. I ſoon reduced a ſtrong, vigorous, and active Conſtitution, to a very lazy, weak, and crazy one. At laſt having obſerved, that I was never better than when I eat and drank very ſparingly of Animal Food and ſpirituous Liquors, I began to live very low, and to drink Water with my Wine, the beſt Julep in the World; and this doing, was of great Service to me, not only when my Aſthma, or the Fears of it, were moſt upon me, but at all other better Times: The more ſcrupulouſly I obſerv'd it, the better I fared; and the weaker always proved the next Attacks of my old Tormentor. I had taken no little Pleaſure for ſome

Time in this Experiment, when I was adviſed to add to it the Uſe of *Belloſte's* Pills. I did ſo, and they proving beneficial, I learnt from them to take Crude Mercury; which I prefer in my own particular Caſe to *Belloſte's* Pills, becauſe of the Purgative Quality of them; which does not ſuit me ſo well, though it may be very proper for many Conſtitutions ſtronger than mine. On this very Account I tried the *Æthiops Mineralis* alſo; but whether there was too little Mercury, or too much Sulphur, in the Mixture, I ſet it aſide for the Crude Mercury alone, which I have now taken ſince laſt *May* more conſtantly, and with better Obſervance than when I firſt uſed it, or rather play'd with it; ſometimes half an Ounce Night and Morning; ſometimes an Ounce in the Morning only; intermitting now and then a Fortnight, and then again a Month; but I have continued taking two Months together. I now take it either occaſionally, that is, when I obſerve the firſt Symptoms of Wheazing and Short-breathing, which never fail to be the Effect of the leaſt overcharging of my Stomach, or the eating or drinking

drinking ſtrong Meats and Liquors, more than a Taſte: Or I take it by way of Prevention, two or three Doſes in a Fortnight. For this very Reaſon, I took an Ounce laſt Night, and another this Morning; ſo that I can truly tell you, upon the Whole, and God's Bleſſing, upon Low Life and Crude Mercury, for theſe two Years laſt paſt, I have comfortably ſlept in my Bed every Night, but one, or two at moſt.

I HAVE no Fits like unto the former: I have expectorated more eaſily, and leſs by nine Parts in ten, than I uſed to do. And what beſides is very obſervable, and a very great Encouragement to me, I am but rarely ſenſible of that Feveriſh Diſpoſition I, for ſo many Years before, was always complaining of; my Aſthma has no more its uſual Periods.

I THINK I have now tried your Patience ſufficiently; but I was willing to let you know how much I have tried Crude Mercury, to be an Inſtance of its inoffenſive Quality, at leaſt; and if not, of all that Efficacy upon my Diſtemper I could wiſh, yet of much Good it has done me, and ſtill does me.

It has not quite cured me, and perhaps never will: But ſo long as I can keep by it all my former Fears at a comfortable Diſtance, and ſafely nip and check them in the very Bud, I ſhall have more Reaſon to continue the Uſe of it, than they can have who would forbid it. I heartily wiſh you good Succeſs in your Preſcriptions of it; and am,

SIR,

Your moſt humble Servant,

April 19, 1733,
at *Shenfield.*

J. La Porte.

To Dr. Dover.

SIR,

I Should be very ungrateful, If I did not acknowledge the great Benefit and Advantage I have receiv'd from your Advice and Direction, in taking Crude Mercury. I have for many Years been troubled with ſtrong Scorbutic Humours, but more particularly ſo all laſt Summer: And the Beginning of the Winter the Humour was ſo

ſtrong

ſtrong and violent, in and about my Right Knee, that the Joint was almoſt quite ſtiff, ſo that I could ſcarce walk; and it was with great Pain and Difficulty when I went up any Steps that were any thing higher than ordinary: And at Night I had a good deal of Pain, and Uneaſineſs in turning myſelf in Bed. After my firſt Application to you, about laſt *Chriſtmas*, I immediately took, according to your Direction, one Ounce of Crude Mercury every Morning. By the Time I had taken twelve or fourteen Ounces, I found myſelf abundantly better; and before I had taken two Pounds, I was quite well: All the Stiffneſs, Uneaſineſs, and Pain, I had in my Knee was quite gone, and my Leg as well and as ſtrong, I think, as ever it was in my Life. —— For ſeveral Years I uſed to have a good deal of white Scurf in my Hands, in the Spring; and therefore I thought proper to continue taking the Crude Mercury; and now, this laſt Spring, I have not the leaſt Scurf in my Hands, or any where whatoever.

I HAVE taken in all about five Pounds of Crude Mercury; and, in my Opinion, in

ſtubborn Chronic Caſes, there is no Remedy ſo good; and, I am ſure, nothing can be more pleaſant and agreeable; for, in the taking, I have never been in the leaſt, ſick or uneaſy; never confined ſo much as a Quarter of an Hour; nor never in the leaſt interrupted, either in Buſineſs or Pleaſures. I heartily wiſh you equal Succeſs with your other Patients; and am,

SIR,

Your moſt obliged

Piccadilly, May 10, 1733.

humble Servant,

BENJ. BENSON.

POSTSCRIPT.

Henry Boſſenburg (my Servant) has alſo had very great Benefit from Crude Mercury. For theſe laſt three or four Years, he has had great Pains in his Head and Eyes, Pains and Contractions in his Legs, a voracious Stomach, eat a vaſt deal of Victuals, but never agreed with him; could get little or no Reſt or Sleep at Night, and commonly feveriſh, a great deal

deal of Pain in his Back and Kidneys, and in the Groin. He has taken about three Pounds of Crude Mercury, and has found a moſt aſtoniſhing Cure. He has voided, at Times, a vaſt deal of ſmall red Gravel, and ſlimy corrupt Matter, and a great deal of Stuff, which appear'd to him to be a Sort of Worms. His Pains have all left him; what he eats agrees with him: He ſleeps well at Night; and has perfectly recover'd his Health and Strength.

To Dr. Dover.

Red-Lyon-Square,
May 16, 1733.

SIR,

THE Benefits I have received from the taking of Crude Quickſilver, and the firm Opinion I have of the Uſefulneſs of that Medicine in all Chronical Caſes, and Diſtempers proceeding from Obſtructions, would render me unpardonable, ſhould I refuſe to let the Particulars of my Caſe be publiſhed in the Work you have informed me is now in the Preſs.

The Original, Sir, of my Illneſs was a Cold, contracted by laying in damp Sheets, which was followed with a little feveriſh Indiſpoſition. To remove which, I ſent for Dr. *Mullens*, of *Saliſbury*, for whom I have a very great Eſteem, and whoſe Advice is generally attended with Succeſs. He thought proper to treat this lurking Fever with the Salts and cool Regimen; but inſtead of yielding to the Medicines, it ſoon was accompanied with a very ſtrong Chronic Caſe, and violent Pains in my Bowels and Stomach, which I could liken to nothing but a Pin's being drove through me about the Navel. In this Condition I was brought up to *London*, and put myſelf into the Hands of Dr. *Mead* and Dr. *Monroe*; and from the juſt Eminency they have both acquired in their Profeſſion, as well as the intimate Friendſhip I have many Years had with the latter, I flattered myſelf with Relief from thoſe Pains, which now conſtantly attend me. Thoſe Gentlemen were of Opinion that my Fever was only Symptomatical; and that my Diſtemper aroſe from Obſtructions in ſome of the Secretory Veſſels; which Opinion was juſtified by the Succeſs; for on giving me warm

warm Medicines, the feveriſh Symptoms left me, and my Spirits were much eaſier and free: But ſtill my Pains continued. I was attended by a ſevere Coſtiveneſs, or rather a total Stoppage, unleſs forced by the Methods uſed in ſuch Caſes. I grew exceedingly emaciated, and could not, without Difficulty, croſs my Chamber: They then thought it adviſable to ſend me to *Bath*; the Fatigue of which Journey brought all my Feveriſh Symptoms again upon me. To remove which, my good Friend, Dr. *Bave*, thought proper to give me the Bark, which I have formerly obſerved to have an odd Effect on my Conſtitution; and either that Drug, or my Diſtemper, immediately took away the Uſe of my Hands, ſo that for many Weeks, I could not ſign my Name. I drank the *Bath* Waters regularly for ten Weeks; I cannot ſay they diſagreed with me; but I grew weaker; all my Complaints continued, with the Addition of a violent Pain in the Soles of my Feet, and Palms of my Hands, with ſuch a Numbneſs in my Fingers and Toes, that I could not perceive any Life or Circulation of the Blood in them. In this Condition I was prevailed with by a Friend

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to try what Effect Crude Quickſilver would have on me; and took three Quarters of an Ounce every Morning for about twelve Days. The third Morning I began to find my Fingers and Toes tingle, and a Warmth in them, which I had not felt for many Weeks; my Secretions were all well performed, as when in the State of my beſt Health; I could eat in five or ſix Days a boil'd Chicken, drink a Half-Pint of Wine, and ſlept well, which I had not done for a Quarter of an Hour, during my whole Illneſs, but when obtained by Opiates: My Pains left me, and no Complaints, except a great Weakneſs, remained.

NOTWITHSTANDING the Succeſs I found, I ſuffer'd myſelf to be perſuaded, that the Uſe of a Medicine of that Specific Gravity, might be attended with very ill Conſequences, and that now the Obſtructions were removed, the uſual Methods of Phyſic would perform the reſt. I left off the taking of my Quickſilver; and the Weather growing hot, left the *Bath*, and came for *London*, but found myſelf grow every Day worſe, and all my Complaints returned. I again put myſelf into the Hands of the two Gentlemen, whoſe

Advice

Advice I before had had; who, I do believe, did all that the Power of Phyſic could attempt: But my Pains grew as intenſe as ever; the Paſſages were again ſtopt; I could not obtain one Hour's Sleep; and I have been informed thoſe Gentlemen declared to ſeveral of my Friends, that there was little Hopes of my Recovery. When I had gone on a Month in this Way, I reſolved to try once more the Effect of Quickſilver: I took it again in the ſame Quantity; and it produced in every Particular the ſame Effect: I continued taking it for ſeven Weeks every Morning; and have enjoyed from that Time perfect Health: I have known it ſince taken with great Succeſs in ſeveral Chronical Caſes; and particularly a remarkable Cure performed by it on a Lady, whoſe ill Digeſtion occaſioned violent Pains in her Stomach for many Years, after eating, which this Medicine has wholly removed: I have alſo myſelf cured a Horſe of the Glanders, by giving him an Ounce every Morning for a Month.

I HAVE given you the whole Hiſtory of my Caſe; and own, Sir, I look upon the Life I now enjoy, to be owing to this Medicine. I find the Gentlemen knowing in the

Practice

Practice of Phyſic ſeem to diſpute from what Quality or natural Power this Immature Metal can produce ſuch Effects? Give a Novice, Sir, Leave to ſhoot his Bolt, and to ſuppoſe its Effects produced from the Sulphur this Mineral contains; which, by many Experiments I have tried, I have found to be much purer than any of the Minerals, and even of moſt of the Metals: And if further Trials were made with that View, perhaps the Efficacy of the Medicine might be preſerved, and the Objection that moſt of the Gentlemen of the Faculty make, of the Danger of Circulating ſo heavy a Fluid in the Blood Veſſels, might be avoided. I am,

SIR,

Your obliged

Humble Servant,

EDWARD LISLE.

For Dr. DOVER, *at the*
Jeruſalem *Coffee-Houſe,*
London.

SIR,

York, May 4,
1733.

SIR,

YOU muſt have been under the ſtrong Influence of ſome very inauſpicious Planet, not your Friend Mercury: For what leſs could have hurried you into ſo inconſiderate and raſh a Reſolution of publiſhing your Heterodox Notions and Practice in Phyſick.

PERMIT a Friend to expoſtulate a little with you upon this melancholy Subject.

DOES not the Faculty conſiſt of Members actuated by the ſame Paſſions and Prejudices common to all other Men? Have they not an Intereſt diſtinct from that of the Community, as they in ſome meaſure ſubſiſt by the Calamities in the Public? Are they leſs ſenſible than others, of the Eaſe and Conveniency in purſuing their Ends, the Acquiſition of Fame and Affluence, in Paths ready traced out to them, without the painful and induſtrious Application requiſite in ſeeking new ones? And will they not conſequently be obſtinately tenacious of their old general received Rules, ſtrenuouſly defend them upon

upon all Occaſions, and treat every prying Reformer as a Traytor to themſelves, and an Enemy to the Public?

INSTEAD of ſuch Reflections as theſe, you may poſſibly have imagin'd, that they were all ſincere Searchers after Truth, Encouragers of ingenious and diligent Enquiries, and always ready to embrace it when, and where-ever found: That they were endow'd with an humble Opinion of their own Knowledge, join'd with a forbearing and a forgiving Temper towards ſuch who differ from them; imputing all real Errors to a miſinform'd Judgment, and never uncharitably to a Pravity of Will and Morals. Though it will be readily allow'd, that there are ſome few ſuch, Men of the greateſt Ingenuity and Integrity, of exalted and improved Talents, an Honour to the Science they profeſs, and as worthy of our Eſteem and Admiration, as the many low Craftſmen are of Contempt and Ridicule; yet, conſidering the great Diſparity of Numbers, and Difference of Tempers, whatever your Thoughts at that Time may have been, you are ſurely now cured of the Infatuation, and convinc'd that

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want of Orthodoxy in Phyſic, is as heinous and as unpardonable a Crime with the Generality of your Fraternity, as it is in Points of Doctrine with the Clergy.

If any Doubts ſtill remain (as a little Champion againſt you ſays it may be poſſible) I imagine ſome Crude Mercury, which you often ſwallow, muſt have lodg'd in the Parts ſubſervient to the Rational Faculties, and render'd you *Non compos*. What but a meer Phrenzy could raiſe in you ſo paſſionate a Concern for the Public, (who are generally unthankful, or inſenſible of ſuch Favours) as to make you intirely regardleſs of your own Welfare? This Public Spirit you will, I dare ſay, plead in Excuſe for ſo falſe a Step: And it is, I own, what may be urg'd with a better Grace by you, than your Oppoſers; for they ſwim in Shoals with the Current, and have the Approbation and Aſſiſtance of all, without Fears of loſing in ſo unequal an Encounter: You, on the contrary, labour againſt the Stream, friendleſs and unaccompanied, and whoever meets you in his Way, helps to ſink you.

A De-

A Declaration of Love for the Public, attended with ſuch Circumſtances, you will ſay, may be allow'd to be ſincere, while the violent Profeſſions of it by others will be thought ſomewhat equivocal: They may, indeed, for Reaſons very obvious, exert the beſt of their Skill to relieve People afflicted with acute Diſtempers (unwilling to be exactly like the Hangman, who ſees his Patient but once) and yet be not at all ſollicitous to keep them always in a healthy State, or to eradicate Chronical Diſorders, which yield many Crops yearly.

But, in the mean time, what Harveſt are you to reap from this boaſted Sincerity? Had you obtain'd the Fame of ſlaying your Thouſands and ten Thouſands, in a regular Courſe, you might have purged, vomited, blooded, and flea'd without Cenſure: Even your Crude Mercury, had it been given without Succeſs, or concealed, would not have opened one of theſe *Argos*'s Eyes; whereas your recommending the Uſe of it in ſo undiſguiſed a Way, and the rapid Progreſs it has made in curing many Diſorders, before thought to be incurable, expoſes you

to

to the laſh of many Tongues, and ſome Pens.

A Learned Doctor, in a Treatiſe on Mercury, ſets forth the great Obligation Nurſes and Grave-diggers have to you, and makes you as much their Friend as the late Epidemical Diſorders. Think you that ſuch an Advocate as the Antidote, or even the very ingenious *Cantabrigian*, can wipe out Stains of ſo deep a Dye?

The next is a Phyſical, Philoſophical Barber-Surgeon, who in a lofty Strain tells the World, That the Phyſician is ordain'd by Almighty God; and, that he proceeds by unerring Rules: But that there are ſome bold Intruders in this high Ordination, Strangers to theſe Rules, who relying on Gueſſes, he calls Quacks. And after giving a Sketch of his Medicinal Philoſophy, his great Erudition, and pointed Wit, upon the Merit of uſing you very roughly, I preſume, he builds his Hopes of ſtepping into the College in his Neighbourhood.

So ſanguine are his Expectations of Succeſs, that he thus early addreſſes himſelf to the Favour and Protection of the

Apothecaries; a piece of Policy abſolutely neceſſary in Young Practitioners, and not to be totally neglected by the moſt Venerable Sages of the Profeſſion; For whoſe Reputation can long ſtand the Shock of an univerſal Charge rung upon their melodious Mortars?

ANOTHER, already dignified, from a Barber-Surgeon, turn'd into a Doctor, in grateful Remembrance of ſuch his Advancement, employs his many leiſure Hours in Service of the Fraternity. His avow'd Attempt is, to diſpoſſeſs People of the good Opinion they have at preſent entertain'd of Quick-ſilver; wherein he follows the uſual Method of firſt defaming and blaſting the Credit of thoſe who recommend it. Anger ſeems to have taken Poſſeſſion of the whole Man, and left no Room for Reaſon; which being calm and cool, always flies terrified from ſo turbulent a Companion. Empyrick, Quack, and Noſtrum-Monger, are Terms as opprobrious and irritating among Men of real Learning, as the more Vulgar Rhetorick is among the Fiſh-Women at *Billingſgate*; *Tantæne animis medicantibus ira?*

POOR

Poor *Belloſte*, who died in Peace, where he long liv'd in Eſteem, as a Man of Ingenuity and great Veracity, is the firſt who falls a Victim to his Wrath. He is ſet forth in the Character of an Empyrick, that his Medicine Quickſilver may be called Quackery: And as if it were much to the Purpoſe, his Philoſophy is criticis'd, without giving any Attention to the Truth or Falſhood of the Facts quoted.

What Pretence can you have to more Favour than he has met with? You who are among us daily, practiſing and inculcating what you have publiſh'd, muſt expect at leaſt the like, if not more ſevere Uſage: Your Legacy has ſpread too far to be longer treated with contempt; its further Progreſs therefore muſt be ſtopped by Cenſures; every Thing you have ſaid or done muſt be condemn'd; notorious Facts conteſted, and render'd doubtful; and your Reputation openly attack'd, purely with this View, that what you have aſſerted in relation to Quickſilver, may find no Credit.

Are you not in full Expectation of ſome ſuch Phyſical Sophiſtry, in a Treatiſe ſhortly

to be publiſh'd, which has been uſhered into the World by many publick Advertiſements, importunately inviting all Phyſicians, Surgeons, and Apothecaries, and others, (if any others can be ſuppoſed to have Candour and Veracity equal with them,) to ſupply Caſes in the Uſe of Quickſilver. The Candour of People intereſted muſt undoubtedly be great, if the Saying holds true, That *Intereſt will not lye.* That of the Publiſher will be beſt ſhewed in remarking what Caſes came to him from Apothecaries, *&c.* and what from Patients; that the Readers may judge for themſelves, which moſt to rely on as genuine, and fairly ſtated. And

When he has compleated this Work, he would do well to ſhew his Impartiality and public Spirit, by collecting in the ſame Manner all Caſes wherein Vomits have proved fatal, and Bliſters occaſioned Mortifications, and ſo on, ſtrictly ſcrutinizing into the good or bad Succeſs of many other commonly applied Remedies: But this is never to be expected. All fatal Miſcarriages purely owing to Medicines regularly preſcribed, will be for ever valid. Such Miſcarriages

riages give no Offence; it is a Diſcovery how Cures may be eaſily attained without the Aſſiſtance of Doctors, which has gathered a Storm juſt ready to burſt on your devoted Head.

I HOPE you may ſtill avert the Danger, that theſe firſt Skirmiſhers may have abated your Courage; and that you will not longer perſiſt in courting Perſecution, for the Sake of the Public; but rather endeavour to mitigate the Correction of your Adverſaries by a ſilent ſubmiſſive Retreat from the Conteſt. It is prudent to fly with a few Wounds from the Outlyers only; and, on the contrary, high Madneſs to moleſt and ſtand combating with a whole Neſt of Hornets: However, you may deſpiſe waſpiſh Inſects, when they are in great Numbers enraged and armed with poiſonous Weapons, they are no contemptible Enemies.

THIS Letter, already grown long and tedious, I thought to have finiſhed here; but I am willing to ſay ſomething firſt of myſelf. My Name you know, and Experience has ſhewed you ſome of my good Qualities; but be not vainly inquiſitive to know more of me; for my Nature and

Efficacy is Incomprehenſible to human Faculties, and will eternally deride the ſtudious Labours of the moſt curious Searchers into Myſteries.

If you torture me by Fire, and ſtop my Flight, can I do leſs than reſent ſuch cruel Uſage by griping, rending, and in various Ways exerting my juſt Rage on the firſt Object I am let looſe to? Whereas unchanged by Art, and in the pure State Providence offers me, I am truly a Friend to Mankind, affording Comfort and Relief to moſt of the Miſerable, who will have but as much Faith and Confidence in me, as they blindly repoſe in many Mixtures of Poiſons.

When called in Aid, and thus in a friendly Way admitted, I ſpeedily and inſenſibly pervade the whole human Syſtem in purſuit of all Noxious Heterogeneous Intruders. None can long reſiſt my Invincible Force, nor avoid the Combat by Abſconding or Flight; the moſt remote and imperceptible Receſſes in the Labyrinth of the Nerves, are as acceſſible to me as the firſt more obvious Paſſages. Where-ever, therefore, they may have become formidable by poſſeſſing an

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important Poſt in collected Numbers, I ſoon reach the Place, and as ſoon diſunite them, and drive them out of the Body; gaining a compleat Victory with ſo much Eaſe, that while this War is waging within, all ſeems to be at Peace without: And when the Enemy is diſlodged, I repair the Damages they may have done, by reſtoring to all Organs ſufficient Vigour to execute their proper Functions.

NATURE ſends me with her Commiſſion, and ample Powers to enforce in all Places a punctual Obſervance of the Laws ſhe has impoſed; in conſequence whereof, when I find the Stomach and Bowels in a State of Rebellion, bringing quick and inevital Deſtruction upon the whole Conſtitution, I immediately reduce them to Obedience, and a peaceable State. Whenever any of the great Complexures of the Nerves by inteſtine Jars have intangled themſelves, at my Approach they range into regular Order, and give mutual Aſſiſtance to each other, in a friendly embracing Intercourſe; from thence all hideous and convulſive Agonies and Tremors ceaſe, giving place to an univerſal Serenity.

I ROLL on without Controul, through Tubes inconceivably minute; the very Avenues to the Seat of the rational Soul are open to me. I find free Ingreſs and Egreſs, and am always welcome to that noble Inhabitant, who is ſenſible of the Service I do her, in rendering this her temporary Abode ſomewhat comfortable. Were it poſſible for you with a juſt Conception to follow my Track through theſe almoſt infinite Meanders, your Admiration of this wonderful Machine would be exceeding great: And, how juſt would be your Indignation at the Preſumption of ſome weak Men, who pretend to have unerring Rules for rectifying Diſorders, the Situation of which they cannot poſſibly know, and philoſophically to determine the exact Progreſs of what they ſend blended into this Road of Circulation; ſo numberleſs and intricately diſpoſed are theſe Channels, and their mutual Communications, that the only Wonder is, that they ſhould ever make a tolerable Gueſs.

HAVING thus indulged myſelf in expatiating on my good and powerful Properties, I will now fairly give you an Account of ſome Things, which are indeed out of my Reach:

Reach: I cannot give eternal Duration to a Material Body liable to daily Changes. In my Progreſs through the Heart, I cannot correct the Vices of it, taken in a figurative Senſe: It is not in my Power to give Courage to a Coward; to make a Knave honeſt; nor to moderate the raging Paſſions of Men of perſecuting Spirits: I cannot reſtrain the Volubility of a Tongue that hath an innate Propenſity to Defamation; nor urge a Reſtive one to a frank Declaration of Truths.

REAL Defects in the Gifts of Nature, are not to be ſupplied but by a creating Power: I cannot therefore cauſe a Limb that may be wanting, to grow forth: Nor can I fill an empty Cavity in the Head with Brains; but ſhould I make a Lodgment in ſo ſolitary and unfurniſhed an Appartment, the Owner need not be under any Apprehenſions; for Fools were never known to go mad: Free from all agitating Thoughts and Doubts, they enjoy a profound Tranquility of Mind, and are happy in an undiſturbed Conceit of being extremely wiſe. When you meet with Phyſical Philoſophers of this Claſs, be not ſo ill-natur'd as to attempt to undeceive them: Let nothing divert you from your judicious

Courſe

Courſe of exploring my Virtues by Experience: an uninterrupted Proſecution herein, will produce Authorities ſufficient to overcome the moſt obſtinate Infidelity or wilful Blindneſs: And then your cloſe Attention to my Service will be richly rewarded, and gratefully acknowledged by

Your true Friend,

HYDRARGYRUM.

SIR,

AS you have been ſo generous, as well as charitable, to beſtow a greater Legacy than was ever given to the World before, by any *Engliſh*, I believe I may ſay *European* Phyſician, in which the Poor will, and already do equally ſhare with the Rich, I think it a Duty incumbent on me to return you ten Millions of Thanks, not only for your Book, but alſo for the good Health I now enjoy from taking Quickſilver by the kind Advice of that worthy Gentleman, and your intimate Friend,

Friend, *Lucas Selfe*, Esq; before the Publication of your Book: And if you can have Patience to read a very flat, but true State of my Case, I will give you all I can recollect, from the twentieth Year of my Age, to this present Time, being now fifty-three; *viz.* From twenty to thirty-five I drank very hard, in which last Year I had a very severe Fit of the Cholic in my Stomach, and about two Years afterwards, some Crosses in my worldly Affairs, with drinking too much stale Beer, and sometimes Port Wine, brought that Distemper on me again, which continued about seven Years, except some Intervals of Ease. At the Age of forty-two, I left of all sorts of Malt Liquor, for even Small Beer at my Meals, would immediately put a Stop to Eating, and cause a violent Pain in my Stomach: Then, for about two Years I drank nothing but small Rum Punch, with a red-hot Iron put into it, (a Pint of Rum to a Gallon of Water, with Lemons and double-refin'd Sugar) which agreed well with me. At the Age of forty-four, having made too bold with Port Wine, I had a severe Fit of the Gout, my Legs swelling alternately,

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to double their proper Size: I have had but two or three ſuch Fits of the Gout ſince. At Forty-four, aforeſaid, I left off ſmall Punch, and at my Meals drank nothing but common fair Water, and ſometimes a little Cyder between Meals, which agreed well with me, whilſt I uſed much Exerciſe. But with a ſedentary Life, my Appetite was ſoon gone, but was ſoon recover'd again by drinking *Holt* Water at my Meals only: But in about three Months time, that Water had no more Effect than any other fair Water. And in the Winter 1728, and the Spring following, I was very ill with the then common Fever and Ague, which went off at laſt with a ſmall Fit of the Gout. From whence I conclude, that ſomething of that Diſtemper was in my Stomach, during that Sickneſs, for I often vomited very much. In the latter End of the Summer 1729, the Fever and Ague returned again, (attended, as I ſuppoſe, with the Gout in my Stomach) which continued ſome Time. In *October* 1729, (having but little Exerciſe,) I was often taken with cold Chills, and great Pains in my Stomach, which Purges and Vomits would remove,

remove, but it would ſoon return again. The latter End of *November* following I was taken in a different Manner than ever before; *viz.* with Heart-Burnings, Wind, and ſour Belchings, and my Mouth often filled with clear Water; which Water ſoon left me, after taking an Electuary, and now and then Lozenges; but the Heart-burning and Pain in my Stomach continued. Upon which I took a Vomit, and applied a Gliſter; but could find no Eaſe till I took forty Drops at a Time of *Species Diambre*, with Tincture of *Snake-Root*, compound Spirit of Lavender and *Liquid Laudanum* in a Draught of Spearmint Tea; which was repeated as often as the Pain returned, 'till I thought myſelf perfectly well: But in twenty-four Hours afterwards, my Stomach was uneaſy, my Mouth full of Water in the Morning, and Urine very thick: the next Day my Stomach was in great Pain, which was eaſed by taking forty of the Drops aforeſaid. *December* the 8th, 1729, I began to take every Night and Morning four Pills compoſed of the Gum-Pill, *&c.* in a Glaſs of Bitter-Wine, and continued the ſame 'till the Fifteenth, when I left them off; and then

then the Stomach-Ach and Cold-Chills all over my Body came on again. *January* the 4th, 1729, I found my Breath ſtink in the Morning; had good Appetite, but very bad Digeſtion; and the Pain in my Stomach began to come on me again. Thus I continued (ſometimes pretty well, at other Time ill, never well above two or three Days at one Time,) 'till the Beginning of *May*, 1730, when being in greater Pain than common, I took three Vomits in one Week, which eaſed me for ſome Time. The 20th of *May* I took a ſtronger Vomit than before, which had no other Effect than the former. Then I applied to an eminent Phyſician, whoſe Preſcription was ſtrictly obſerved; and I received great Benefit by it: But ſoon after I had gone through the whole Courſe, my Pains returned again, and I became as bad as ever. And being almoſt Blind, which I attribute to frequent Vomits, (being often taken three or four times in a Week,) could not bear the Thoughts of entering into that Courſe any more; and, expecting that Death would relieve me in a ſhort Time, bore my Affliction as well as I could. But in the Month of *March*, 1730-1,

I was

I was adviſed by the Gentleman aforeſaid to take Crude Mercury; the very Name of which was then ſo terrible to moſt People in this Country, that all I ſpoke to of it perſuaded me againſt it, except one or two of Dr. *Dover*'s Acquaintance; nor would Money, (enough of which was offer'd to tempt any mean Perſon to take as loathſom a Draught as an Apothecary could make up,) prevail upon any one to take it before me: This hindred me a Month; during all which Time the Gout in my Stomach put me to the moſt exquiſite Pain imaginable, for two, three, and ſometimes four times every Day, with reſtleſs Nights; 'till *Monday* the 12th of *April*, 1731, about Ten at Night, in Preſence of Mr. *Selfe*, aforeſaid, and ſeveral other Gentlemen and Ladies, I boldly ſwallowed two Ounces of Crude Mercury, went to Bed about Eleven, was perfectly eaſy, and ſlept heartily all that Night, which (ſo far as I can remember) was more than I had done in twelve Months before; which ſudden Change was owing, as I take it, to the Mercury's expelling the Wind in my Stomach as ſoon as it arrived there. I was eaſy the next Day, though

though my Stomach continued tender. About Noon, which was about fourteen Hours after I took it, I found ſome few very ſmall Globules of the Mercury in the latter Part of my Stool, the Excrement being very hard. I continued taking two Ounces every Day for ſix Days together, and never failed of a Stool every Day, which ſeldom uſed to be more than once in three, four, and ſometimes five Days. I ſaved moſt of my Water, during this Operation, in the Sediment of which, I found ſome Globules of Mercury, much ſmaller than thoſe mentioned before, and am well ſatisfied that it paſſes through the Ureters. Thus was I relieved from the violent Gouty Pains in my Stomach by Crude Mercury only; and as the Weather grew warmer, by taking now and then three, four, or five Doſes, my Stomach grew ſtronger, and my Conſtitution was ſo much amended in all Reſpects, that my Acquaintance were ſtruck with Admiration: Abundance of Queſtions were continually aſked me, by People of all Ranks, many of them having entertain'd a Notion that it was rank Poiſon, and preſent Death to any one that ſhould take it; that it would paſs

through

through the Body as fast as it was put into the Mouth; others would tell me, that I should find the ill Effects of it the next Winter, and that I should not live above six Months; others were so good-natur'd to let me live a whole Year, *&c.* Thus was I treated by People of all sorts, by some in a ludicrous, and by others in a serious manner. However, I thank God, I have now lived above two Years in the Enjoyment of better Health than I had done for eighteen Years before, and I am now as well as ever I was in my whole Life-time; not but I have had some small Pains in my Stomach since the first taking of Quickfilver, which were soon removed by taking an Ounce or two of that glorious Medicine, or Drops of *Mynsicht*'s Elixir of Vitriol in a Glass of Water. Nor had the Mercury ever any ill Effect upon me, unless a gentle salutary Spitting be so termed; which I must deny, because I was much better after it; and this never happened to me but once, from riding out in very cold Weather, which I really believe stopp'd its passing by Perspiration, and by that means threw it back from its natural Motion (some-

what like its being ſent into the Body by Friction.) However, I ſoon put a Stop to it, by a gentle Doſe of Phyſic, and had an excellent good Stomach to my Victuals, immediately afterwards, which digeſted well. Thus have I troubled you, Sir, with every thing I can immediately recollect in this Affair, relating to myſelf; and, if you can have a little more Patience, will now give you ſome Account of the Effect which this noble Medicine hath had upon other Perſons, *&c.* Since God Almighty has been pleaſed to beſtow this great Bleſſing upon me, I thought it my Duty to communicate it to as many of my Fellow-Creatures, as poſſibly I could, and have accordingly ſo done, to the utmoſt of my Power, and gave occular Demonſtration to ſeveral of them, that there was no Difficulty nor Danger in taking of it, and have Leave to mention the Names of ſome, together with their Diſeaſes as follows, *viz.* *Titus Rake*, of *Bradford*, Tallow-Chandler, was ſoon cured of a Fit of the Gout, both in his Stomach and Limbs; Mr. *James Fellows*, of the ſame Place, Bailiff to his Grace the Duke of *Kingſton*, being ſo bad with the Gravel, that

that when he had ſtoop'd, to take any Thing from off the Ground, could not get himſelf upright again, without the greateſt Pain and Difficulty imaginable; by taking only eight Ounces of Quickſilver, about thirteen Months ſince, was never troubled with that Diſtemper more, and was never better in his Life, than at this Time. The Reverend Mr. *Pryer*, and alſo the Wife of Mr. *Robert Townſend*, of the ſame Place, have found great Benefit in the ſame Diſorder. *John Hanny*, a Tyler of this Town, was ſo ill of the Cholic for many Years paſt, that he continually walked ſtooping, and holding both his Hands againſt his Stomach, was perfectly well after taking a few Doſes of it; as was alſo the Wife of Mr. *Edmund Heall*, Clothworker. And Mr. *Matthew Smith*, Clothier, found immediate Eaſe in the ſame Diſorder, at taking the firſt two Ounces. Alſo *Edward Briſcoe*, of *Freſhford*, near this Town, Innkeeper, has found ſo much Benefit in the ſame Diſorder, that he lately told me, he would not be debarred from taking Quickſilver for any Sum of Money whatever. Mr. *Robert Townſend*, Maſter of the Work-Houſe in

this Town, was ſoon cured of a violent Pain in his Side. And one *Anthony Threſher*, of *Iford-Mill*, near *Bradford*, Fuller, having been troubled with the Cramp, Pain in his Stomach, and Reachings, for ſeven Years paſt, about two Months ſince took three Ounces and half of Quickſilver at twice, and has been perfectly well ever ſince; and hopes to do more Good in his Generation yet, having had twenty-ſeven Children by three Wives already. Mr. *John Orpin*, an Apothecary at *Bath*, having been in an Hypochondriacal Diſorder, with Lowneſs of Spirits, *&c.* to a dangerous Degree, I told him, about a Year and half ſince, of the many Cures perform'd at *Bradford* by Crude Mercury, who told me he had heard ſo before, from an Apothecary at *Bradford*; and aſked me how we took it. I told him we put two Ounces at a Time into a Glaſs, without any Vehicle whatſoever, and drank it as other Liquids. Upon which he took it, and was perfectly cur'd by it in a very little Time, and has lately declared the ſame to me, and a Room full of Company; and that he hath been well ever ſince; and will always

always atteſt the ſame to be true. I muſt further add, in Commendation of Mr. *Orpin*, that he has been ſo honeſt as to give this Medicine to ſeveral of his Patients, and to recommend it to others: which was of Service to ſeveral Perſons of Diſtinction in the following Seaſons at *Bath*, from whence its Fame began to ſpread all over the Kingdom, and will, I don't doubt, be ſo well known and approved of in a few Years more, that if it can poſſibly enter into the Heart of any Man to be wicked enough to go about to cry down Quickſilver, as a dangerous Medicine to be taken in at the Mouth, he will be in the ſame Condition, as if he were to propoſe a Bill for a General Exciſe, and find ninety-nine in a Hundred of all the ſincere and unbiaſſed People in *Great-Britain* againſt him.

I HEAR, Sir, that you are good-natur'd; and therefore have Reaſon to hope you will pardon ſo much Trouble given to you by a Perſon you never yet ſaw: But for the Sake of my Country, as well as of yourſelf, I heartily and ſincerely wiſh you

good Health, and Life as long as it ſhall be deſireable to yourſelf; and beg Leave to ſubſcribe myſelf,

SIR,

Your great Admirer,

Moſt Obliged and

Bradford, May 12, 1733.

Moſt humble Servant,

P. ASSENTON.

P. S. I WAITED on Mr. *Methuen* and his Lady at *Lukenham* the laſt *Sunday*, when he was very well, and deſired you would accept of his humble Service. His good Lady was then very ill; and I heard the laſt *Thurſday* there was then but little Hopes of her Recovery. They told me that her Caſe was lately ſent to you, for your Advice; but fear it was then too late; and heartily wiſh, that when ſhe went to *Bath* the firſt Time ſince her Illneſs, ſhe had gone to *London*, where your Aſſiſtance in due Time might have ſav'd her Life. Mr. *Lucas Selfe* preſents his Service to you.

TO

TO THE AUTHOR OF THE USE and ABUSE OF *MERCURY*.

SIR,

IT is very natural to imagine, that a Gentleman, who profeſſes ſo much Zeal for the Intereſt of his Fellow-Creatures, would not have been aſham'd of his Name: But you choſe rather to conceal yours, as ſuſpecting that your Integrity might be call'd in Queſtion, for giving a Medicine daily, which at the ſame Time you affirm will ſap

the very Foundation of Life, and may be juſtly ranked among the ſlow Poiſons.

You ſeem ſurprized that the Author of the *Ancient Phyſician's Legacy* ſhould preſcribe it in ſuch a Variety of Complaints: but you ought in Juſtice to have told the World, that his Recommendation of Quickſilver in all thoſe Caſes, is ſupported by undeniable Facts, and a long Courſe of Experience.

You ſeem to regret very much that the proper Obſervations were not made in the laſt Century, when this Method of taking Crude Mercury was as faſhionable in *England* as it is now; for you are firmly perſuaded the numerous Inſtances of Perſons who then received Prejudice from it, would have been ſufficient to have deterr'd wary People from the Uſe of it now. When you aſſert a Thing ſo roundly, it was incumbent upon you to have ſhewn in what King's Reign this Medicine ſo univerſally prevail'd; or to have told us, at leaſt, who was Lord Mayor at that Time.

I CAN recollect ſome Inſtances in the laſt Centry, when it was given with very good Succeſs: Sir *Nicholas Butler*, a very eminent Phyſi-

Phyſician in King *James* II's Reign, preſcrib'd it to one Mrs. *Cope*, who lived in *Auſtin-Friars*, but had her Country-Houſe too at *Edmonton*. By the Uſe of it, ſhe was abſolutely cured of a Lunacy. He likewiſe gave it to one Miſs *Fuller*, who ſwallowed Traſh of ſeveral ſorts, Worſted among the reſt, by which pernicious Practice, ſhe brought herſelf into a very languiſhing Condition, but at length was very happily cured by this ſlow Poiſon, as you are pleaſed to call it. Several People of the beſt Reputation now living in *Edmonton*, are ready to atteſt the Truth of theſe Facts. At the beginning of King *William*'s Reign, I gave Quickſilver myſelf to two Ladies in *Briſtol*, in very high Hyſterical Caſes, one of them almoſt to a degree of Madneſs, and yet they both ſucceeded very well under my Care, though I muſt own, that one of them unfortunately died about ten Years ſince: The other is ſtill in perfect Health, and not long ſince married to a ſecond Huſband. If theſe are all the ill Conſequences of this ſlow Poiſon, the Ladies at leaſt will not be much afraid of it. I have taken it myſelf above ſix and

forty

forty Years, I have been in all ſorts of Climates, and am now upwards of Eighty, and yet, I thank God, enjoy a perfect State of Health. If I ſhould happen to die twenty or thirty Years hence, this Author may, if he pleaſes, impute my Death to this ſlow Way of poiſoning.

You ſeem very much ſurpriz'd that I ſhould in no Part of my Work deſcribe the Manner of this wonderful Fluid's Operation upon human Bodies. Give me Leave to tell you, Sir, that the World will think much better of me for owning my Ignorance, than if I had led them, as you have done, into a blind Labyrinth of hard Words, and unintelligible Terms. At your firſt ſetting out, you promiſed us very great Things, *viz.* To ſhew us the Nature of Mercury, its manner of operating, and, in the laſt Place, to produce ſeveral Inſtances of its dreadful Effects. But how notoriouſly you have fail'd in each Particular, let every unprejudiced Perſon determine. You ſay the Chymiſts are ſo much puzzled, they don't know what to make of it; and from thence it may very reaſonably be concluded, that you

know

know as little. However, to corroborate your Phœnomina, you introduce a very ſilly Story in the following Words: " I remem-
" ber an Inſtance of a Perſon who did not
" care for ſtirring out of his Bed, for fear of
" wrenching or tearing ſome Capillary Veſ-
" ſel of his Body; and indeed I ſhould not
" have thought his Apprehenſions very ri-
" diculous, if he had been taking Mercury
" five or ſix Weeks, after the modern Way."

You are not contented with venting your Spleen againſt this innocent and uſeful Medicine only, but you take a great deal of Pains to baniſh Inoculation out of the Kingdom; which I will venture to affirm, even after the modern Method of Practice, will ſave more than twenty out of a hundred that die of it the natural Way. You endeavour likewiſe to deter People from Immerſion in cold Water, for fear it ſhould inflame the Lungs: Whereas, even in Conſumptions I have often preſcribed it, and found different Effects.

NOTWITHSTANDING your Archneſs upon me, I am perſuaded you have been much the greateſt Friend to the Nurſes and Grave-

Dig-

Diggers: I challenge you to ſhew when I have loſt three Patients for the laſt five Years, where I was firſt called, either in acute or chronic Caſes, (though I have ſettled in Town above eighteen Months) and even without the help of Bliſters. On the contrary, I can prove that I cured ſeveral Patients which have been left off by more than one of the Faculty.

WHAT follows is one of his ſage Remarks upon a part of my Treatiſe: "After the "Author (ſays he) has deſcribed a Conſumption and Phthiſic, in which he tells us "the Patient complains of a Soreneſs in his "Breaſt, Difficulty of Breathing, Loſs of "Appetite, a great Heat and Drineſs in the "Palms of his Hands, with frequent and "ſudden Fluſhings in his Face: and (obſerve "well) after he has given too a Receipt to "cure this Diſorder, he concludes thus; I "have of late experienced that Quickſilver "is the moſt beneficial Thing in all the "World for the Lungs, taking one Ounce "every Morning." I preſume, by your [*obſerve well*] you take it for granted, that the Lungs are not affected with an Aſthma.

In

In ſhort, you have beſtowed a great deal of Pains in your laborious Treatiſe, to prove what every Body will readily grant you, That Mercury can never be good in all Caſes. And to ſupport your Aſſertion, you ſay, The preſent practiſing Phyſicians in this Town, who, without all Diſpute, are a Set of the moſt learned and judicious Men in *Europe*, unanimouſly agreed, That Mercury hardly procures any viſible Advantage, but in Aſthma's only. I owe great Deference to the learned Faculty, but hope you don't include yourſelf; becauſe notwithſtanding your elaborate Treatiſe of the *Uſe and Abuſe of Mercury*, you have not the leaſt Pretenſions in the World to that Title.

You think you make me appear ridiculous, by affirming that I recommend an Ounce of Quickſilver every Morning, for a Month together in the Stone, though I ſay, at the ſame Time, I have known it do Wonders.

To convince you that this Recommendation is not founded upon Gueſſes, and bare Surmiſes only, I ſhall produce you both the Facts and the Names; which, as a very great

great Man, upon another Occaſion, very juſtly obſerv'd, is that ſtubborn Kind of Evidence, which will not yield to the moſt perſuaſive Eloquence, nor bend to the moſt imperious Authority.

In anſwer to one of your Enquiries. If there can be any Inſtances produc'd of Quickſilver's paſſing by Urine? I am willing to give you entire Satisfaction by referring you to the following Perſons: *Richard Freeman*, Eſquire, at the Lower-End of *Little James-Street*, *Bedford-Row*; *Ezekiel Wallis*, Eſquire, at *Luckenham*, late High-Sheriff of *Wiltſhire*; and Mr. *Aſſenton*, of *Bradford*, in *Wiltſhire*. I don't in the leaſt Queſtion, if the proper Glaſſes were uſed, but you might ſee the Quickſilver voided by Urine, in more or leſs Quantities, by almoſt every Perſon that takes it. As it is a moſt excellent Remedy in the Gravel, it muſt neceſſarily enter the Kidneys; and can there be any Paſſage more natural for it afterwards, than the Ureters, and ſo to the Bladder?

NOTWITHSTANDING you ſet out with a Zeal for the public Good, yet any Eye

may

may very eaſily ſee through your ſhallow Artifice; for by decrying a Medicine which has performed the moſt wonderful Cures, upon the Evidence of ſome Hundreds of undoubted Credit, you have proved yourſelf the Enemy, and not the Friend of Mankind. And if from your firſt, we may gueſs of your future Performances, I think, by only inverting my Motto, I ſhall ſhew you to the World in your true Light: *Homines ad Dæmona, nullâ in re propius accedunt quam ſalutem Hominibus negando.*

" Liquid Quickſilver will do great Service
" in beginning Plicatures of the Inteſtines,
" Obſtruction of their Glands and Valves;
" and in Foulneſs and hard Concretions or
" Obſtructions bred in the Mouths of the
" Lacteals, (which are often Caſes where
" the Symptoms, common to other Diſeaſes,
" will not admit a certain Diſtinction;) but
" eminently ſo in Aſthmatic Caſes, above
" all other Medicines, by its Weight only
" forcing open the obſtructed Mouths of
" the Lacteals, and its Steams thereby en-
" tering the Habit, attenuate the vicid
" Juices of the Lungs, and render them

" per-

" pervious, and ſo promote Expectoration.
" And, I think, other more appropriated
" and ſpecific Medicines not ſucceeding,
" this ought to be tried in all Caſes of the
" Alimentary Tube, ſince it is innocent and
" ſafe as Aſſes Milk." Theſe are the Words
" of a very Learned and Honeſt Phyſician, though not of this Town; who, for his own Part, has contributed very much toward the Health and Benefit of Mankind. You ſee his Opinion concerning Quick-ſilver, That it is an admirable Medicine in Nervous Diſorders; though our moſt Learned Gentlemen of the Faculty aver it to be a moſt dangerous Medicine in all ſuch Caſes. Read *Cheyne's Engliſh Malady*, Page 133.

I SHALL publiſh ſeveral Facts, and ſo turn you over to the Author of the *Antidote* to give you another Pill, when, according to your Promiſe, you ſhould think proper to favour us with a Second Edition of your *Uſe and Abuſe of Mercury*: But why will not theſe Friends of Mankind, theſe Promoters of public Good, publiſh ſome of their own *Arcana*'s, particularly of their wonder-

wonderful Method of curing of Fevers? And tell us at the ſame time, when we may hope the grand Myſtery of Cooling any Perſon will be diſcover'd? It cannot be doubted, but the moſt learned Gentlemen of the Faculty have read both the Inſtitutes of *Riverius* and *Sennertus*, whoſe firſt Axiom, in the *Theraputick* Part of Phyſic, may be thus tranſlated; *Whatever is cured, is cured by Contraries.* Thus all living Creatures, if they find themſelves too hot, remove to a cooler Regimen; and, on the contrary, if too cold, to a warmer. And this is purely owing to Inſtinct: It would be the very ſame, if Mankind would follow Nature's Directions.

It is a difficult matter to remove vulgar Errors: They are as ſtrongly rooted as the moſt inveterate Diſeaſe; and Reaſon and Phyſic are frequently baffled by both. How high did the Cry run formerly againſt the Uſe of the Bark, one of the beſt Medicines in the *Materia Medica?* What Fears, what Apprehenſions of its evil Conſequences? What ſtrange Miſconſtructions of its Effects, and downright abſolute Perverſion of

its Properties? Nothing can be ſafe from ſuch Miſconceptions, neither Merit in Man, nor Excellence in Medicine: The wiſe and more honeſt Part of Mankind, by the natural Turn of Thought and Temper, as naturally engages in Defence of both; and there being very few noble Remedies found either by Art or Chance, and brought in by Practice by the ſkilful right-judging Part of the Faculty, but have been as generouſly ſupported by Reaſon and Argument, at the very Inſtant that the Torrent of popular Clamour was at the Height againſt them. The Cauſe of both is the ſame, and the Party form'd againſt both the ſame likewiſe: The great Phyſician in courſe falls into a Method of Practice, which the lazy, the little, the unſkilful Practitioner can no more imitate, that he can underſtand where is the Wonder. Therefore that ſuch exert their Malice they are Maſters of, and ſtrive to blaſt what they cannot copy, read the *Encomium argenti vivi*, Page 26, 27. I only wiſh that they would let the World know the great Succeſs they had from Vomiting and Bliſtering after that inhuman Way; not forgetting

getting their heating Bolus's, and more heating Cordials, preſcribed every ſecond Hour with Sack-Whey, together with Spirits of Hartſhorn? Let them publiſh ſomething of this Sort, agreeable to the Reaſon of Mankind. Many honeſt Gentlemen take us for Guardians of their Health and Lives: But obſerve how miſerably they are diſappointed, when 'tis left to the Apothecaries to recommend the Phyſicians, who will always endeavour to ſecrete him who orders the leaſt Phyſic.

I was lately called to an only Son of a Nobleman of the firſt Quality, ſix Months old: He had four Phyſicians, the famous *Shropſhire* Gentleman, *quondam* Mayor of * *Shrewſbury* at the Head of them. He had been twice vomited; twice blooded; an Iſſue cut in his Neck; his Head, his Back, his Arms, his Thighs, his Legs, the Soles of his Feet, all bliſtered in four Days time; when it pleaſed God by Death to take him out of the Hands of his Tormentors.

AFTER all that has been ſaid concerning this moſt noble and excellent Remedy, yet

* Fortunate to a Proverb.

I cannot recommend ſo univerſal and general a Uſe of it, which often brings it to Diſcredit: And though it does many, yet it will not do all Things. Would it not be thought I ſpeak with a View to my own Intereſt, which is rather deſign'd for the Benefit of the Public, I ſhould direct that the Patient always adviſeth with ſome Perſon who rightly underſtands the Nature of Mercury, before he enters upon the Uſe of it.

Having

Having ſeen and obſerved ſo many ERRORS *in* MIDWIFRY, *I hope this ſhort* ESSAY *on that* Subject, *will not be diſagreeable to the* READER.

FIRST of all, as ſoon as the Woman finds herſelf Pregnant, I preſcribe a light and ſpare Diet, that ſhe keep good Hours, and uſes ſuch Exerciſe as is convenient; the Example of this we have from poor People, and ſuch as are of the meaner Sort: We ſee they labour hard, very near to the Time of their Delivery, and at the ſame time, thoſe are the People that bring the healthieſt and ſtrongeſt Children into the World: and, without the Art of Midwifry, their Travail is much eaſier and much ſafer than in thoſe that conſult ſuch as are famed for Maſters of that Art, who after a Lady has miſcarried once or twice, they Chamber her up and will not let her go down one Step, for fear leſt what ſhe has in her ſhould fall

from her; but how contrary to Reaſon and Experience is ſuch a Method, I leave it to the meaneſt Capacity to judge.

'Tis true, the Woman that tranſgreſs'd in eating the Forbidden Fruit, had the Curſe laid on her, *viz.* that *In Sorrow ſhe ſhould conceive and bring forth Children, and her Huſband ſhould rule over her*; which Curſe, I humbly conceive, all the Females of the Brutal Kind and others have been Sharers in. The Tranſgreſſion of the Man, in eating the Forbidden Fruit, deſcended to the whole Earth, which ſhould bring forth nothing but *Briers and Thorns, without the Sweat of his Brow*; thus we ſee almoſt the whole Creation ſuffers by their Tranſgreſſion; the *Serpent was curſed of all Cattle, on his Belly he ſhould go, and eat Duſt all the Days of his Life.*

When you come to act as a Midwife, take care and be not too haſty, leſt you cauſe Floodings, by which means the Embrio is ſuffocated, cauſing not only a dead Birth, but the utmoſt Danger and Peril to the Mother; give Time, if the Fœtus is living and preſents right, it will make its Way into the World without Help: How many clan-

clandeſtine Births do we daily ſee and hear of? 'Tis plain they want no Midwife, nor do they ever receive any harm from the After-Birth remaining in their Bodies; but to my great Concern I have often obſerved, as ſoon as the Head of the Infant is in the World they have heedleſly or careleſly torn it from the Body of the Mother, to the Deſtruction of them both. Give me Leave, by way of Digreſſion, to tell a Story of my own Knowledge: I was once called to a Merchant's Daughter, near the dead Time of the Night, her Father and Mother, and a great deal of other Company were in the Room at the ſame time; the old Lady told me ſhe could not compare her Daughter's Pains to any leſs than the Pains of Travail: She was ſitting in a two-arm'd Chair, upon a thick ſoft Cuſhion; her Siſter made a Sign to me to walk to the farther end of the Room, where ſhe told me her Siſter had a Child under her; upon which I went and ſat down by the young Lady, I whiſper'd her in the Ear, that if it were poſſible ſhe ſhould compoſe herſelf as if ſhe was aſleep, which ſhe did in a few Minutes after; I held up both my Hands, and told them ſhe was a-

ſleep, and that if they waked her, it was as much as her Life was worth; upon which they all walked gently out, leaving only her Siſter and me in the Room; ſhe took the Child from under her, holding it in the Air, it drew Breath, and immediately began to cry, inſomuch that we were afraid they ſhould hear it below Stairs: A Servant Maid being intruſted with the Secret, carried it up to the Garret; a very fine Boy as you ſhould ſee born. I took care to prevent the Milk coming into her Breaſts, by wetting Cotton in ſtrong Spirits, and putting it under her Arm-pits; the Lady was down Stairs in three Days time very well, and no Perſon breathing had the leaſt Suſpicion of what had happen'd: Now, if an Infant under ſo great Diſadvantages, makes its way into the World, ſurely it muſt be deſtructive at all times to precipitate or haſten the Birth. The Lady never after married, but died with the Character of a very virtuous and good Creature. The Reaſon why the Child was not ſuffocated lying ſo long under her Body, was becauſe it had never drawn Breath.

HAVING thus far proceeded, I come now to give ſome Inſtructions after the Birth: Firſt of all, that the Mother gives Milk to the Fruit of her own Body, being the moſt Natural: if her Conſtitution will not bear it, the Excuſe is very warrantable, and none elſe but our delicate fine Ladies muſt not by nurſing ſpoil their Breaſts; but how often does a Judgment follow them by Milk-Sores in their Breaſts, and by that fulſome Way of plaiſtering and repelling the Milk, bring on the Milky Fever, which carries off many of them. The Remedy I would preſcribe to help ſuch miſerable Creatures, is to wet a large Quantity of Cotton in ſtrong Spirits, and wear it under their Arm-pits for a Fortnight or three Weeks, which will draw of the Serum of the Blood, by thoſe large Emunctories before it enters the Breaſt to be form'd into Milk.

I ADVISE, whenever you take a Nurſe, take one that is temperate in her way of living; take care her Milk be not too old, becauſe it often times proves too ſtrong for a new-born Infant, the Conſequence of which has many times proved fatal.

I PERMIT Ladies to ride in their Coaches till the Seventh Month, becauſe at that Time the Fœtus turns itſelf in the Womb, with its Head downward, in order to come for the Birth; and often times you ſee by Experience, that the Fœtus at that Time has made its Way into the World: Now jolting in Coaches when the Embrio is ſo placed, often ſtrikes the Head into the right or left Groin; if in the right Groin, the left Arm preſents firſt; if in the left Groin, the right Arm preſents firſt; reducing the Arm by ſtrong Compreſſion and lifting up of the Head, you will bring it open to the Birth, and then with a little Patience it will make its way into the World.

IN caſe Throws are wanting, take Troches of Myrrh, one Dram; Caſtor, half a Dram; Oil of Cinnamon three Drops, divided into three equal Parts: Give one in a little Black-cherry-Water every half Hour, will ſoon bring on the Throws, and haſten the Birth.

IF the After-pains are violent, give half a Scruple of Aſafætida, with one Grain and a half or two Grains of *London* Laudanum, will take off the Pains in three

Hours at fartheſt; if the Catemenia or Purgations are overmuch, give very plentifully of *Mynſicht*'s Elixir of Vitriol in Spring Water, ſuppoſe a Tea-Spoonful every fourth or ſixth Hour: The green Water being not ſufficient, give as follows:

TAKE Caſtor, one Dram, Salt of Steel, half a Dram, made into Pills with Extract of Rue, give three of theſe every fourth Hour, drinking three or four Spoonfuls of the following Julep after each Doſe; Take of Black-cherry-Water and Penny-royal-Water, each one Ounce; Rue-Water and Hyſteric-Water, each four Ounces, ſweetened with a little Sugar. All that has been ſaid here, is known by long Experience, rarely or never to fail.

THUS far have I gone, out of the pure Regard and Love I bear towards the Fair Sex: 'tis certain I have deviated ſomething from my Profeſſion; if I have ſaid any Thing contrary to Reaſon or Experience, I deſire to be informed by the Gentlemen that profeſs the Art.

STATUTA

STATUTA MORALIA

Collegii Regalis MEDICORUM *LONDINENSIUM.*

De Converſatione Morali, & Statutis Pœnalibus.

SI quæ lis, aut Controverſia, ex Ordine, Gravitate & Modeſtia (quæ in Comitiis obſervari præſcripſimus) parum obſervatis, oriatur, arbitrio Præſidis aut Pro-Præſidis & Cenſorum, quicunque deliquerit puniatur.

AT ſi præſes contra Statuta quid admiſerit, admoneatur quidem per Conſiliarios, coram Sociis in Comitiis; non puniatur tamen, niſi ob grave aliquod Crimen (quale eſt peculatus,

peculatus, ſive diſſipatio bonorum Collegii & Similia) tale Judicatum per majorem partem Sociorum præſentium: Inter quos Volumus, ut quator ſint ex Electoribus, qui una cum reliquis ſuper ea re ſententiam ferant. Tantam tribuimus Præſidis honori & auctoritati.

Ne quis revelet aut propalet quidquam alicujus Momenti quod in Collegio dictum ſit, ſub pœna decem Solidorum.

Nullus Collega alterum vel Ignorantiæ vel malæ Praxis, vel alicujus Sceleris aut Ignominioſi Criminis nomine accuſabit; vel publice Contumeliis afficiet. Si quem contra feciſſe Præſidi & Cenſoribus innotuerit; prima Vice ſolvet in uſum Collegii quatuor libras, ſecunda duplicabitur Mulcta; quod ſi tertio quis ſimiliter offenderit, Expelletur e Collegio, nec denuo Reſtituetur priuſquam Collegio decem libras ſolverit.

Nullus Medicus qui ſecundus ad Ægrum vocabitur priorem Medicum repelli faciet: Nec quicquam prius Innovabit (niſi res urgeat) quam illum convenerit. Et ne quis fraudi ſit locus, quicunque ad Ægrum accerſitur, ab illo, vel adſtantibus, an quis Medi-

Medicamentum aliquod præſcripſerit, percunctabitur, ſub pœna viginti Solidorum.

Postea tamen, ex Ægri ſententia, vel ſolus illi medebitur vel cum priore Medico, aut alio aliquo rem adminiſtrabit.

Dabit tamen operam ut priorem Secum in praxi retineat. Quod ſi Ægroti vel Amicorum conſenſu id fieri nequeat; priorem tamen Medicum nullo modo vituperabit; nec vultu, geſtu, ſuſpitioſo Silentio vel ullo alio modo illius Acta apud Ægrum vel aſtantes traducet, ſed eum laudabit potius; neque Id doloſe, honeſtatis & probitatis Nomine, ſed (quod ad rem maxime attinet) periti & Intelligentis Medici, ut alterius famam apud alios, eo loco habeat, quo ſuam, mutatis vicibus, eſſe Cuperet. Nempe ad artis quam profietur, honorem & dignitatem.

Conſultandi formula.

Si plures Curationis Gratia, convenerint, de Conditione Ægri deliberaturi; Conſultandum eſt Summa Modeſtia, & non, niſi ſecluſis Arbitris alienis: Latine autem Res tran-

tranſigatur, alioquin Mulcta eſto quinque Solidorum in uſum Collegii. Tunc primum ſedulo inquirendum in morbi ſpeciem Cauſam & Symptomata, deinde Remedia proponenda, ad Morbum profligandum & Symptomata mitiganda maxime Convenientia.

Incipiat Junior Medicus, Concludat Senior, at ſi Senior aliquis primo accerſitus fuerit, enarret ille primum rem totam reliquis, nempe quid egerit & quo ſucceſſu, deinde fiat ut dictum eſt.

Si ſæpius ad eundem Ægrum viſendum convenerint, nemo quidquam præſcribat, imo ne innuat quidem quid agendum ſit, coram Ægro vel aſtantibus priuſquam conjunctis Conſiliis privatim inter ipſos Medicos concluſum fuerit; nequis ambitioſe nimium videatur praxin præoccupare & reliquis liberam præſcribendi anſam præripere; niſi ſubita & urgente aliqua Occaſione (eaque approbanda a Præſide & Cenſoribus) coactus fuerit ſolus præſcribere.

Si Medici in diverſas eant Sententias, ita ut in eandem praxin inter ſe conſentire nequeant, ſumma tamen Prudentia & Moderatione

ratione ſic ſe gerant, ut eorum Diſcordia in Artis prejudicium non cedat, nec aliis, ſi fieri poſſit, innoteſcat.

Si duo tantum Medici fuerint, Junior cedat Seniori; vel tertium advocent, cui res referatur.

Si plures, vincat pars major, ſi diffidentes, numero pares fuerint, concludatur cum majore parte Seniorum. Sic honori & dignitati Artis providebitur, quæ alioquin per Medicorum diſcordiam facile contemptui habebitur. Qui contra fecerit, mulctabitur quadraginta Solidis.

Ne qua lis aut Controverſia inter Medicos propter officioſas Viſitationes, præoccupationes, & Inſinuationes oriatur; Statuimus & Ordinamus; Ut cum ad Medicum quemlibet, alii Medici conſultandi Gratia advocati fuerint, ac ſecundum formulam a Nobis præſcriptam, de morbo & Remediis inter eos convenerit; Senior Medicus, aut alius aliguis referat Ægro, aut aſtantibus, quæ approbata & præſcripta communi conſenſu fuerint, eorundemque Executionem cæteri Ordinario Medico relinquant; nec denuo viſitabunt Ægrum, niſi a Medico Ordinario, aut ab Ægro, ut id faciant, expreſſe rogati fuerint.

Nullus

Nullus Medicus ſive Socius ſive Candidatus ſive Permiſſus Conſilium ineat, cum Empirico aut rejecto a Collegio, & a Medicinæ praxi prohibito, aut alio aliquo ſine Admiſſione aut Permiſſione Medicinam exercente, niſi urgente aliqua Cauſa, a Præſide, aut Pro-Preſide, & Cenſoribus aut majore parte illorum approbanda ſub pœena quadraginta Solidorum.

Quilibet Medicus contentus eſto, honeſta pro Conditione Ægri & laboris ſui, mercede.

Nemo paciſcatur cum Ægro, aut alio Quovis Ægri nomine, de prætio Sanitatis reſtituendæ. Verum ſi quis Ægros ſuſceperit curandos, qui ſibi aliter ſatisfactum non putabunt, ni pactionem cum Medico ineant; aut in eos incidat qui facultatum ſuarum aut honoris nulla habita ratione parce nimis & illiberaliter agunt cum Medicis, cum talibus licebit paciſci, Reſervata tamen poteſtate Domino Præſidi & Cenſoribus, atque in eorum abſentia, quatuor ex Electoribus, pro ipſorum prudentia corrigere, ſi quid iniquius pactum ſit & immutare.

Ne quis doceat populum Medicamenta, aut horum Nomina illi indicet (præſertim ſi

fuerint Medicamenta vehementiora, velut Purgantia, Opiata vel Narcotica, Abortum facientia, Vomitoria, aut quidquam Aliud majoris momenti ac periculi) ne abuſu eorum lædatur populus: Sub pœna quadraginta Solidorum quoties offenderit.

Qui paciſcitur cum Pharmacopolis de aliqua pretii parte ex Medicamentis præſcribendis percipiènda, mulctabitur quadraginta Solidis quoties ita deliquerit.

Nullus Socius, Candidatus, aut Permiſſus eorum Pharmacopolarum opera utetur, qui aut ipſi Medicinam exercent, aut iis Medicis crebro inſerviunt, qui examinati & approbati non ſunt ſecundum Statuta hujus Regni, ſup pœna decem Solidorum quoties offenderit, Collegio Solvendorum, modo ea de re a Præſide aut Pro-Præſide & Cenſoribus præmoditus fuerit.

Nemo, Mulctam ſibi pro delicto ſecundum Statuta inflictam, ſolvere recuſabit, Sub pœna violatæ fidei Collegio præſtitæ.

Quoniam Pharmacopolæ & Chirurgi ſæpe ad Medicos Urinas Ægrotantium deferunt, petuntque ut ab Urinarum Inſpectione aliquid Ægris ſuis præſcribant; ac deinde ſub hoc Conſultationis prætextu, reliquam

Curationis

Curationis telam ipſimet, pro arbitrio. pertexunt; quicquid inde quæſtus ſive lucri eſt, id omne ſibi arripientes, Medicis vero nihil præter exilem illam & jejunam Urinarum ſpectandarum Mercedem offerentes. Idcirco Statuimus & Ordinamus ut Nemo ſive Socius, ſive Candidatus ſive Permiſſus Conſilii quidquam impertiat iſtiuſmodi veteratoriis Impoſtoribus ſuper Urinarum nuda inſpectione; niſi Simul ad Ægrum vocetur, ut ibidem pro re nata idonea Medicamenta ab honeſto aliquo Pharmacopola componenda præſcribat.

Volumus preterea ut ſingulis Schedulis ſive Receptis (ut vocant) diem Menſis, & Nomen Ægri, ſuumque quiſque adſcribat. Ridiculum quidem eſt & inſulſum, ex Urinarum ſolummodo Inſpectione ſive de morbi genere ſive de Ægrotantis Statu ac Conditione, Auruſpicum & Conjectorum More, velle quidquam certi ſolidique divinare. Monemus igitur eos Medicos ut hac in re multo cautius in poſterum ſe gerant, quam antehac a pleriſque factitari Solitum. Et hanc ob Cauſam omnibus Medicinam exercentibus interdictum Volumus, ne Idiotis iſtis & Mulierculis Ægrotantium Matulas

Circumferentibus, aliquod Medicamentum præſcribant, niſi aut ipſum Ægrum prius recte noverint, aut Saltem ab iis qui Conſilium petunt, do morbo ejuſque Circumſtantiis & plane & plene inſtructi fuérint. Quippe hac Ratione & dignitatem Medicinæ melius tuebimur & multo aptius certiuſque Remedia periclitantibus profutura excogitabimus.

Denique Statuimus & Ordinamus ut quicunque admittuntur in Societatem Collegii Subſcriptis nominibus polliceantur, ſe Statuta omnia prædicta diligenter obſervaturos aut Mulctas contra facientibus inflictas non invito animo perſoluturos.

Si ad hanc Normam Collegium prudenti conſilio Præſidis, Electorum, & Cenſorum gubernetur; & exterminatis indoctis, profligatiſque odioſis Impoſtoribus, Scientia decoretur; certiſſimum eſt, & florentiſſimum futurum hoc noſtrum Collegium in perpetuum, & Univerſæ etiam Reip. (quantum noſtra Officia attinet) recte provideque Conſultum iri.

Quare per fidem illam Collegio datam Soeios omnes hortamur, & obteſtamur, ut quo quoverſum diligenter proſpiciant & providenter

videnter agant, nec quenquam reſpectu perſonarum habito, admittant in Societatem Collegii: Sed ad laudem, decus, honorem, & perpetuitatem Societatis, omnia decernant. Quoniam certum eſt Collegium Noſtrum nulla re firmius Stabiliri poſſe & Continuari, quam bonis Legibus, probis Gubernatorum Moribus, & Collegarum ſingulari Virtute atque Eruditione.

Statutes of MORALITY,

Belonging to the

College of PHYSICIANS

In *LONDON.*

Tranſlated from the LATIN.

Concerning Moral Converſation and Penal Statutes.

IF any Diſpute or Controverſy ſhall ariſe from want of due Obſervance of that Order, Gravity and Decorum which we have preſcribed to be obſerved in our Meetings, the Party thus offending, ſhall be puniſhed at the Will of the Preſident or Vice-Preſident, together with the Cenſors.

BUT if the Preſident ſhall happen to offend againſt the Statutes, he ſhall be admoniſh'd indeed by thoſe of our Council, in the Preſence of the Fellows at public Meetings; however he may not be puniſh'd, unleſs

unleſs for ſome weighty Crimes (ſuch as Embezzlement of public Monies, or waſting the College-Goods, and the like) and ſuch Caſes to be adjudged by the Majority of Fellows then preſent, among whom are required four of their Electors to give their Voices with the reſt, on this Occaſion; ſo great is the Deference we think proper to be paid to the Honour and Authority of the Preſident.

No one may reveal or make Public, any Thing of Moment that is ſaid in the College, under Penalty of ten Shillings.

No Member ſhall accuſe another of Ignorance, or wrong Practice, or of any Villany or ignominious Crime whatſoever, no, not ſo much as to paſs any public Reflection upon him. If any one ſhall appear to the Preſident and Cenſors to have thus offended, he ſhall for the firſt Time, pay to the Service of the College four Pounds, for the ſecond Time double; but if any one ſhall offend in like manner a third Time, he ſhall be expell'd the College, neither ſhall he be capable of being reſtored, before he ſhall have paid to the College ten Pounds.

A PHYSICIAN, who is called to a Patient as a Second, ſhall by no Means cauſe the former to be rejected, neither ſhall he make any Innovations in the Practice, (extreme Caſes excepted) before he ſhall have conſulted with him; and to prevent all occaſions of Frauds of this kind, whoſoever is ſent for to a ſick Perſon, ſhall firſt enquire of the Patient, or By-ſtanders, whether any Phyſician has already preſcribed, under Penalty of twenty Shillings.

AFTERWARDS however, as the Patient directs, he may either alone, or jointly with the former, or any other, proceed in the Affair.

NOTWITHSTANDING he ſhall do his beſt to have the former retain'd with him; but if this cannot be effected with Conſent of the Patient or his Friends, nothing however leſſening ſhall he ſay of him, neither by Looks, Geſture, by a forbidding Silence, or any other Method ſhall he traduce that Other's Actions to the Patient or By-ſtanders; but on the other hand he ſhall commend him, and that not with falſe Praiſe, giving him the Name of an honeſt good ſort of a Man, but (what is much more

to

to the Purpoſe) ſhall call him a ſkilful and intelligent Phyſician; in ſhort, he ſhall hold the Character of another in the ſame Eſtimation he would have his own held, in the like Circumſtances; and this for the Honour and Dignity of his Profeſſion.

Forms of Conſultation.

If for Safety-ſake, a number of Phyſicians ſhall meet to debate on the Condition of a diſeaſed Perſon, let them conſult together with the greateſt Decorum, and not without firſt excluding all By-ſtanders: Moreover, let the Affair be diſcuſs'd in Latin, under the Penalty of Five Shillings for the Service of the College. In the firſt place, Enquiry to be made into the Nature, Cauſe and Symptoms of the Diſeaſe; then Remedies to be propoſed, moſt conducive to the abating the Symptoms and conquering the Malady.

Let the younger Phyſician begin, the Elder conclude the Conſultation; but if an Elder ſhall happen to have been firſt called in, he ſhall open the whole Affair to the reſt, by telling them what he hath done,

and

and with what Succeſs; then to proceed in order, as above directed.

In caſe the ſame Phyſicians meet more than once on the ſame Patient, no one of them ſhall preſcribe, nor ſo much as hint to the Patient or By-ſtanders, what is to be done, before ſomething or other has been concluded on by their joint Counſels in private, to the Intent that no one may appear ambitious of foreſtalling the Practice, or depriving the reſt of the liberty of giving their Opinions; this however with a Proviſo, that he ſhall not be compell'd to write alone by the Urgency of the Caſe, which is to be conſider'd by the Preſident and Cenſors.

In caſe the Phyſicians met, are divided in their Opinions, ſo far as not to be able to concur in the ſame Practice, they ſhall carry it with the utmoſt Prudence and Moderation, in ſuch manner as that their Diſagreement may not prejudice their Art, or, if poſſible, may not be viſible to the World.

If only two Phyſicians meet, the Younger ſhall come over to the Elder's Opinion, or a third to be called in, to whom the Matter may be referr'd.

If more than two meet, a Majority of Voices ſhall prevail; if on Diviſion, Voices are found equal, it ſhall be determined on the Side of the Majority of Seniors. By thus acting, Proviſion will be made for the Honour and Dignity of the Art, which otherwiſe might be brought into Contempt. Offenders againſt this Rule, to be fined Forty Shillings.

To prevent all Diſputes which may ariſe among Phyſicians about officious Viſitings, Preventions and Inſinuations, it is decreed and ordain'd. That as often as to the Phyſician attending, others of the Faculty are called in for Conſultation, and they ſhall have agreed in manner above preſcribed concerning the Diſeaſe, and the Remedies to be uſed for it; the Senior Phyſician, or any other, ſhall report to the Patient or his Friends, the Reſult of their Conſultation; the Execution of which to be left to the ordinary Phyſician: Neither ſhall they make a ſecond Viſit, unleſs at the Requeſt of the ordinary Phyſician, or that of the Patient himſelf.

LET no Phyſician, whether Fellow, Candidate or Licentiate, confer with an Emperic, or one rejected by the College, or forbid Practice, or with any other Perſon unduly exerciſing the Art of Medicine, excepting only when required by the Neceſſity of the Caſe, and this to be approved by the Preſident and Cenſors, or by Majority of the ſame.

LET every Phyſician be content with a Gain proportionate to the Condition of the Patient, and his own Labour.

A PHYSICIAN may not make a Bargain with a Patient, or with any in his Name, concerning the Price of reſtoring him to Health; but if he ſhall happen to undertake the Cure of certain Perſons, whom he ſuſpects of not ſatisfying him without entering into ſuch Bargain, or ſhall fall into the Hands of thoſe, who from want of juſt Regard to the Faculty, are wont to deal with Phyſicians too ſparingly, and beneath their liberal Education, in ſuch Caſes it ſhall be lawful to make Agreement, reſerving however to Mr. Preſident and Cenſors, or in their Abſence, to four of the Electors,

a Pow-

a Power of correcting or altering, as they ſhall judge proper, any Compact of an unreaſonable Nature.

A PHYSICIAN may not inſtruct the People in Medicines, or diſcover to them even the Names of any Medicines, eſpecially of thoſe of the more violent Kind, ſuch as Purgings, Opiates, Narcotics, Abortifs, Emetics, or any other Medicines of Moment and Danger; leſt thro' an Abuſe of ſuch, the People receive Injury; every ſuch Offender to pay Forty Shillings for each Offence.

A PHYSICIAN, who makes Agreement with the Seller of Medicines, for any Part of the Profit of thoſe preſcribed, ſhall be fined Forty Shillings for each Offence.

NO Fellow, Candidate, or Licentiate ſhall make uſe of ſuch Apothecaries, who themſelves exerciſe the Art of Medicine, or are wont to ſupply Phyſicians not duly examined and approved according to the Laws of this Kingdom: Whoever ſo offends, to pay to the College ten Shillings, provided he ſhall have been once admoniſh'd of it, by the Preſident or Vice-Preſident, and the Cenſors.

THE

The Mulcts payable by our Statutes for the ſeveral Offences, no one may refuſe to pay, under Pain of Violation of that Truſt due from him to the Society.

WHEREAS it has been uſual for Apothecaries and Surgeons to bring to Phyſicians a Specimen of Urine from diſeaſed Perſons, and from ſuch Inſpection of Urine, to requeſt a Preſcription for their Patient; and then under this Pretence of having advis'd with a Phyſician, to work the remaining Part of the Cure to themſelves, and for their own Profit, leaving to the Phyſicians nothing but the bare jejune Fee for ſuch Inſpection of Urine; therefore we decree and ordain, That no Phyſician, whether Fellow, Candidate or Licentiate, do impart to any ſuch Old-Women Enquirers, any kind of Advice, upon a mere Inſpection of Urine, unleſs he ſhall be called to the Patient, and there, as Occaſion may require, preſcribe proper Medicaments to be prepared by ſome honeſt Apothecary.

MOREOVER we will and ordain, That every Phyſician ſubſcribe to his Schedule, or Recipee, (as 'tis called) the Day of the Month,

Month, the Name of the Patient, and that of himſelf. Indeed it is a ridiculous Piece of Folly to pretend, from the mere Inſpection of Urine, to conclude any Thing of the Nature of the Diſeaſe, or of the State and Condition of the Patient, or rather like Omen-Hunters and Conjurers, to divine any Thing ſure about them: Let this therefore be a Caution to Phyſicians, to act more ſcrupulouſly in ſuch Matters for the future, than has formerly been the Practice with ſome Perſons. And for this Reaſon, we forbid all Phyſicians from preſcribing to ſuch Dotards and old Nurſes, as carry about the Signs of their Diſeaſed, unleſs they ſhall have well known the Patient before, or have thoroughly inform'd themſelves of his Caſe, from thoſe that aſk the Advice; for by theſe Means we ſhall beſt conſult for the Dignity of Medicine, and be moſt likely to invent Remedies for thoſe in Danger.

In fine, we decree and ordain, That whoever ſhall be admitted into the Society of the College, do promiſe by ſubſcribing their Names, carefully to obſerve all the forementioned Statutes, or willingly to pay the Mulcts impos'd on Non-Obſervers.

If agreeably to theſe Rules, the College be govern'd by the prudent Direction of the Preſident, Electors or Cenſors, and by the Excluſion of the Illiterate, and baniſhing all odious Impoſtors, the Science be kept up in its juſt Beauty and Splendor; ſure it is, that this our Society may remain to Ages in the moſt flouriſhing Condition, and may redound (as far as our Offices can avail) to the univerſal Good of Mankind.

Wherefore by that Pledge of Faith given to the College, we exhort and conjure all Fellows of the ſame, that they look wide round 'em with a careful Eye, and admit no one into the ſaid College out of reſpect of Perſon only, but act in every Circumſtance for the Praiſe, Honour and Welfare of the Society; becauſe ſure it is, that this our College can ſtand on no Foundation ſo ſecurely and laſtingly, as upon the joint Baſis of good Laws, good Morals of the Governors, and the ſingular Virtue and Erudition of all its Members.

I Am

I Am but too ſenſible how greatly I ſhall offend the Gentlemen of the Faculty, by this Digreſſion, and would have very gladly avoided it, if by that Means my Deſign would not have fallen to the Ground, which is more to do Juſtice to Mankind, than to irritate and provoke a Set of Gentlemen, who like Moles work under Ground, leſt their Practices ſhould be diſcover'd to the Populace; by which Means, in all Probability, they would be put to Confuſion of Face.

For this Reaſon, by way of Appendix, I have publiſh'd *The Moral Converſation of the College of Phyſicians*, as likewiſe a true and faithful Tranſlation of it, that ſo remarkable a Converſation may be rightly underſtood by all People that can read and underſtand their Mother Tongue.

The Character of a *Moral Agent* belongs to every Individual that has the uſe of his Underſtanding; how far theſe Gentlemen deſerve that Character, will appear by their Actions, which, in Reality, have no better Tendency than to deceive and blind the poor and unhappy Patient. If the Phyſician be ever ſo Ignorant, or his Practice ever ſo Villainous

or Ignominious, if any Reflections ſhould be paſs'd upon him by any other Phyſician, the Accuſer ſhall pay Four Pounds to the College for the *firſt* Offence, Eight for the *ſecond*, and be expell'd for the *third*; notwithſtanding thoſe enormous Crimes, the Phyſician call'd upon ſhall endeavour to have him retain'd; he ſhall commend him to the higheſt, call him a ſkilful and intelligent Phyſician, but muſt not ſo much as give him the Title of an honeſt good ſort of Man, which by the learned and honeſt Gentlemen, is called a *falſe Praiſe*, which I am ſorry for; but at the ſame time they too openly publiſh their own Principles.

The Purport of their whole Converſation, if poſſible, is to conceal their Ignorance. When Learning and Honeſty flouriſh'd amongſt the Gentlemen of the Profeſſion, there was no occaſion for any of thoſe Subterfuges; but oh! how miſerable is the poor Patient, when he puts his Life under the Care firſt of an Apothecary, and then of the Doctor, who declares to the Patient, he muſt firſt raiſe the Fever, before he can cure it; how monſtrous muſt ſuch a Way of arguing appear to a Patient! who by way of return, ſhould imme-

immediately reply, If you can't cure a Fever in a remiſs degree, how can I venture you to cure it in a more intenſe one? But it is generally argued, they muſt be in the right, becauſe they all agree in the ſame Thing, which the *Moral Converſation* moſt plainly directs to. But there is little Regard to the great Truſt committed to the Doctor; but pleaſe to take a View how his Truſt is diſcharg'd: The Apothecaries, generally ſpeaking, have it in their Power to recommend the Phyſician, which is the wrongeſt Step the Patient can poſſibly take: The Phyſician, to gratify the Apothecary, thinks himſelf obliged to order ten times more Phyſic than the Patient really wants, by which means he often ruins his Conſtitution, and too often his Life; otherwiſe how is it poſſible an Apothecary's Bill in a Fever, ſhould amount to Forty or Fifty, or more Pounds? Nay, I have been credibly inform'd, that ſeveral of thoſe Apothecaries have declared they never would call in a Phyſician, but what ſhould put Fifteen or Twenty Shillings a Day into their Pockets: What muſt the Conſcience of ſuch Phyſicians be, that would forfeit their Reputation, and every thing that is

dear to them, by cheating for others? I would venture to ſay, Neither *Sydenham*'s nor *Radcliff*'s Bills did ever amount to Forty Shillings in a Fever, and yet they recover'd their Patients without the Rule, at preſent preſcribed, of Vomiting, Bleeding, and multiplying Bliſters in all Caſes whatſoever; ſo ſince this is to be their Rule of Practice, they are very indifferent in their Enquiries what the Patient's Diſeaſe is.

NOTWITHSTANDING all this artful Way of Practice, they are ſure to eſtabliſh their Characters by Enquiries into the Bodies of their deceas'd Patients; and tho' formerly they generally died of a Polypus in their Heart, which they have long ſince been laugh'd out of; they now, for the Generality, die of a Mortification in the Bowels, which I don't believe ever happen'd, unleſs they were firſt wounded; the Surgeon is bound to find out ſome incurable Diſeaſe, ſo that their great Art of Healing may for ever be eſtabliſh'd.

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